

1979 PHILIPS LEAGUE FIXTURE, P.8 & 9



SOCCER ACTION

REGISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PUBLICATION — CATEGORY B

ΣΧΟΛΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΝΟΥ
ΓΕΩΡΓΙΟΥ - ΣΕΛΙΣ 15.

Jugoslovenska
scena st. 14.

Vol. 4, No. 3 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1979

250 Spencer Street, Melbourne, ph. 60 0421

Victoria, NSW 50 cents
Other States: 60 cents



• Sam Papasavas

PSL BOSS CHALLENGES STATE, P.2

It's all over

PARAGUAY HAS IT SEWN UP

From PEDRO BLANCA
in Asuncion, Paraguay

The dream is over and Australia, as a soccer nation, has been jolted back into reality.

Hopes that the national under 19 team would qualify for the Coca Cola Youth World Cup finals have been smashed in the space of a few days.

Really, the young Socceroos didn't have a chance of defeating Paraguay and Israel to qualify for the finals in Japan in August, but the enthusiasm generated by coach Rudi Gutendorf and his young, willing charges convinced many that Australia could overcome the odds.

The Socceroos in Paraguay aren't clinically dead, but when it is considered that they are now five goals behind Paraguay there can be little hope for them.

It's not so much a question of ability or lack of it, but of playing in a strange country, with a totally different climate, facing partisan crowds of 50,000 and having to contend with the Paraguayan Football Association, which is using every ruse possible to make sure its team qualifies.

The Australian team is faced with too big a mountain to climb.
Paraguay's 3-0 victory over Israel on Monday sealed the fate of the Australians.

At present, Paraguay has four points from two games (five goals for, none against). Australia has one point from two games (no goals, two against) and Israel also has one point from two games (no goals for, three against).

Remaining games are: Israel v Australia (Thursday morning Aust. time), Paraguay v Australia (Saturday morning), and Israel v Paraguay (Monday morning).

If Australia is to qualify, it must beat Israel by five goals, then defeat Paraguay.

Should the Socceroos pull off those amazing results, all would hinge on the last game between Paraguay and Israel. Israel would have to defeat Paraguay if Australia is to finish group leader.

But let's not start dreaming again.

Australia's first game, against Paraguay last Saturday morning, saw the Socceroos fall victim to their own nerves.

Continued, with pictures, p. 13



Wisla Krakow had to fight hard to gain a narrow 1-0 victory over Victoria at Olympic Park last Saturday night. The winning goal was scored by Kaz Kmiecik, pictured at right, shadowing Victoria's Joe Piccone. Story p. 2-3

TV BLACKOUT AVERTED

The 0-10 network this week decided to continue its Philips Top Soccer program after all.

Continuation was made financially possible when Sydney's Channel 10 agreed to continue showing the program, even though it will not record any matches in Sydney.

Editing of the program will

be done in Newcastle because facilities are more readily available there on Sundays.

Last year, the editing was done in Melbourne.

Matches will be recorded in Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra and Newcastle.

The most regular TV venues will be Canberra and

Newcastle. All of their home matches will be recorded.

Channel 10's reluctance to continue showing the program posed a threat to its continued survival.

Without television, commercial sponsorship of the league and of clubs would have been threatened.

—LAURIE SCHWAB



Two weeks ago we gave Rod Stewart a "soccer knighthood" in the inaugural "Soccer Action, New Year's Honor's List, and he certainly hasn't let us down.

"Knighthood" for his services to soccer, Stewart once again showed his enthusiasm for the sport when he appeared at Melbourne's VFL Park in front of 40,000 fans last Friday night.

Someone who had obviously read "Soccer Action" threw a soccer ball onto the stage, so Rod included in his act an impromptu display of ball juggling. The story and picture above appeared on the front page of "The Herald" on Saturday.



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Spearitt's ko halts plucky Queensland

By BRUCE WADDELL

Queensland, after only three training runs under coach Fred Robins produced an excellent performance, one which had Wisla coach Orest Lenczyk claiming it was a far superior side to the Australian XI the Poles had beaten 3-1 in Sydney.

There was no great surprise Queensland was able to match Wisla in several facets of their play.

A team which has defensive players of the ability of Jim Hermitson, Col Bennett and Steve Perry, and an imaginative mid-field of Eddie Spearitt, Steve Dolan and Alan Niven can hold its own in any company.

Even up front, Queensland kept the Wisla defence on its toes for most of the first half with the aggressive Barry Kelso flanked by Brisbane City pair Larry Gaffney and Roberto Echeverria.

Queensland opened brightly and in the first five minutes there was some slight panic in the Wisla defence when Dolan pierced the backline to send Kelso through, forcing keeper Stanislaw Gonet to dash to the edge of the box and clear.

Wisla's buildup was attractive without being deadly but most raids involving Kmieciak, Wrobel and skipper Kapka were dealt with confidently by Bennett and Hermitson, particularly in the air.

But in the 13th minute, Wisla's World Cup midfielder Adam Nawalka was allowed too much freedom on John Wilkinson's left side of the field and he crossed beautifully on the turn.

Perry headed the ball away but it was picked up by strong mid-fielder Plaszewski, who chipped neatly over the stranded Nigel Lownds.

Bennett raced back desperately to attempt a clearance but could only head the ball down near the upright, where Kmieciak followed through to hammer home.

Spearitt was lying deep in the

QUEENSLAND 1 (Niven penalty 57th)
WISLA KRAKOW 2 (Kmieciak 13th, Echeverria own goal, 47th) at Perry Park.

QUEENSLAND — Lownds 7, Wilkinson 6, Bennett 8, Hermitson 9, Perry 7, Dolan 9, Spearitt 8, (Fairbrother 60th), Niven 8, Echeverria 6, Kelso 6, Gaffney 8 (Caldwell 82nd).

WISLA — Gonet 7, Motyka 8, Maculewicz 8, Budka 8, Jaloche 6, Lipka 6 (Gazda 70th), Plaszewski 9, Nawalka 6, Kapka 7, Kmieciak 8, Wrobel 7 (Krupinski 83rd).

European Cup Quarter finalists Wisla Krakow had to use all their know-how to beat Queensland 2-1 at Perry Park in Brisbane, in the second match of the Polish club's tour.

midfield for Queensland picking up the ball from defence and transferring it forward, all the time assisted by the persistent Dolan.

Neither keeper really had any major clear out saves to make in the remainder of the half, but in the 19th minute a great Hermitson pass found Kelso, and Wisla fullback Marek Motyka used plenty of muscle before eventually nabbing the big local striker.

Perry and Niven twice combined well down the left and it was the home side which continued to string together the better attacking moves.

One Niven cross was poorly cleared by Wisla and fell loose to Echeverria, who wasted the chance by blasting over the top.

Then tragedy struck for the Queensland side, which had played so well. Only two minutes from halftime, when Echeverria dropped back to help out the defence.

Echeverria apparently panicked and tried to shove a loose ball past to Lownds, who had come out back the six yard line, but the back pass sailed over his head and billowed the back of the net.

Despite that psychological setback, Queensland maintained their momentum after the break.

In the hot, muggy conditions a few of the Wisla players slowed down noticeably and others became easily rattled by heavy challenges.

There was a bit of "aggro" between Spearitt and Plaszewski, and it led to Queensland receiving a penalty in the 57th minute.

Queensland had been attacking strongly, and just after Dolan had slammed a left-footer inches wide, there was another concerted raid.

Spearitt was left semi-conscious on the ground, and Plaszewski appeared the prime suspect, considering the earlier incident.

The linesmen had observed the misdemeanour, informed referee Jack Wood, and Niven did the rest.

Queensland's momentum appeared to wane after Spearitt's departure. The knock in the back had been so severe he was unable to continue.

Both sides had a few more worthwhile chances and Kmieciak remained Wisla's most effective forward.

World Cup centre half Maculewicz sent in a crashing 40 metre drive, which Lownds did well to tip over.

By LAURIE SCHWAB

The Victorian team that earned lavish praise, for holding Wisla Krakow to a narrow 1-0 victory, has been challenged to test its strength against Philips League opposition.

The challenge comes from Mr Sam Papasavas, chairman of the PSL and president of South Melbourne Hellas.

Mr Papasavas has "dared" Victoria to play against South Melbourne at Middle Park on March 3.

"I agree that Victoria played well against Wisla but I believe that if more PSL players had been included in the side, it would have done even better," Mr Papasavas said.

"It is plain ridiculous that only three PSL players — Chris Kalafatis, Jim Tansey and Joe Piccone were in the Victorian selection. How could some of Australia's greatest players be left out — fellows like Alan Evans, George Campbell, Branko Buljevic, Jim Kondariou, and others?"

South Melbourne coach Dave MacLaren claimed the Victorian Soccer Federation would have had a much bigger attendance at the game had more PSL players been used. As it was, only about 5000 people turned up.

"The Victorian selection looked to me like a political compromise," he said.

Such criticism was perhaps inevitable of a team that tried to be a mixture of Philips League "stars" and so-called State League "plodders." But isn't it remarkable how these "plodders" managed almost to beat Wisla and how last year, Victoria beat Dundee 2-1 with a team that included State League players Billy McClymont, Alan Kerr, Ken Reed, Mick Watkins, Vince Bannon and Tommy Cumming?

The match against Wisla showed that Cumming, Steve Kokoska, John Zyzanski, Carl Sledge, Jamie Paton and Yalka Banovic could easily play in the Philips League.

Certainly Victoria would have nothing to fear in a game against Hellas. In fact, it may be good practice for the Vics' matches against South Australia in Adelaide on Easter Monday and against AC Milan in June.

Victoria's display against Wisla provided immense satisfaction for coach Len McKendry, for his men played exactly the way they were coached in his few seasons they had had together.

The Vics were quick to apply pressure on the man with the ball in all areas of the field — notably in attack.

McKendry saw in Sydney, where Wisla beat an Australian selection 3-1, that the Polish defenders like to stroke the ball around, looking for openings to create attacks.



Wisla captain Henryk Maculewicz is about to place the ball for a goal kick by Stanislaw Gonet. Pictures by SAM BELFONTE

Australia's three strikers were strung wide across the pitch, making it extremely difficult for them to pressurise once they had lost the ball.

So McKendry told his own strikers to operate closer together to make both attacks and pressurising easier.

In defence, Slavia star John Zyzanski, "Soccer Action" 1978 Victorian player of the year, turned on a brilliant performance of general defensive and covering play. Jim Tansey was equally well outstanding at left back and the other two back-four men, Steve Kokoska and Chris Kalafatis were also sound and thorough.

McKendry said after the game he was pleased that he had been able to field a team that was not afraid to attack.

Indeed, the Vics did manage to create a number of dangerous attacking movements, but it was defensive strength and quick covering all over the field that made this performance exemplary.

Midfielders John Gardiner, Jimmy Rooney and Joe Piccone were excellent in closing in on their opponents and dropping back to help the defence but were unable to get much done going forward.

This was due simply to the difference in class between the two teams, a difference which had of course, been expected.

With Adam Nawalka and Zdzislaw Kapka, backed by Henryk Maculewicz moving up from defence, constructing attacking moves through the midfield, Gardiner, Rooney and Piccone were kept busy enough just trying to stop them.

But when Victoria did find attacking opportunities, the action was quite explosive.

In the first half, the Vics created three good scoring opportunities, and from any one of them, McKendry's men could have taken the lead.

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MAN. LTD. STAR SIGNS FOR CITY

Frankston City of the Victorian State League, has signed another top player.

Tony Young, who won a Second Division championship medal with Manchester United in 1974-75, will join the Bayside club in late February.

Frankston has already signed former Spurs and West Ham midfielder Martin Peters of Norwich for a five-week guest stay beginning in May.

Young, who made 15 appearances in United's championship-winning side, last played in the

English Football League with York City.

His contract with Frankston runs until October.

Young, a midfielder or defender, played 83 games for Manchester Utd., plus 13 appearances as a substitute.

Kevin Swinscoe, a 19 year old striker, has signed for Frankston, and is expected to arrive from England by the end of February.

Two other English players Paul

Martin and Alan O'Meara — may be brought to Australia by Frankston.

Pravran Slavia's latest imports from Britain hit town this week.

Tony Heary, a left winger, and Billy Brindle, a midfielder, both come from the Liverpool area, the main hunting ground of Slavia's English connections.

Paul Cooke and Alex McPherson joined Slavia prior to the commencement of this season's Ampol Cup, and hail from the Liverpool area.

Activity by Australian clubs in Britain is hectic at the moment.

Six Victorian State League clubs and three from the Victorian Metropolitan League are in the process of bringing British players to Australia. KYLE PATTERSON.

RECORD!

NOTTINGHAM, England, Trevor Francis, Birmingham City's England striker, became Britain's first one million sterling (1,746,000 Australian dollars) footballer when he signed for English League champions Nottingham Forest.

The fee for Francis, 24, is believed to be 975,000 sterling (1,702,350 Australian dollars) but value added tax (vat) and a levy for the football league provident fund takes the deal well over the one million sterling mark.



Chris Kent

Kent for \$7000

Adelaide City finalised the purchase of winger Chris Kent from South Melbourne last week.

South Melbourne will get a transfer fee of \$6000 plus at least \$1000 in gate takings from a match against Adelaide City.

The match may be played at Middle Park on February 25.

South Melbourne bought Kent from Victorian State League club Ringwood Wilhelmina in 1977 for \$6000 and proved to be Souths' best recruit.

However, injury sidelined him in 1978 and he had only a few games when he recovered.

Kent came to Australia from England about five years ago. He was on the books of Sunderland.

He will join John Nyskohus and Dixie Deane on Adelaide City's forward line.



SOCCER ACTION is published every Wednesday by Newspress, Pty Ltd, a Division of "Age Publications, 250 Spencer Street, Melbourne 3000. P.O. Box 628E, Melbourne 3001. Distributed in Victoria and Broken Hill by Magdalen Pty Ltd, 250 Spencer St., Melbourne 3000; in NSW by Allan Rodney Wright (Circulation) Pty Ltd, 36-40 Bourke St., Woolloomooloo 2001; in S.A. by B.G. & K.L. Fuller, 105 Main St., Beverley 5009; in Tasmania by The Mercury, 93 Macquarie St., Hobart 7000; and in Queensland by Mirror News papers Ltd, 367 Brunswick St., Brisbane 4006.

EDITOR: Laurie Schwab.

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ADVERTISING MANAGER: Bill Vojtek.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Sam Belfonte.

SYDNEY MANAGER: Con Shanahan, David Syme & Co. Ltd., FCA House, 50 Margaret St., Sydney. Phone 29 3788.

PRODUCTION MANAGER: Andrew Berry.

Address all correspondence to Soccer Action, 250 Spencer St., Melbourne, 3000.

Printed by Waverley Offset Publishing Group, 560 5111

GRAMSBERGEN OUT

South Melbourne will play a practice match against Altona City tonight (Wednesday).

The venue will be Middle Park. Relations between the two clubs are good because Altona coach Joe Wilson was with Wolves (England) at the same time as South Melbourne manager Dave MacLaren.

Altona will be without defender Rob Gramsbergen for five weeks after he broke a rib.

But the State League club will be strengthened by the return of a

English signing, will arrive in Australia on Saturday.

Altona is expected to sign two Doncaster Rovers (England) players before the start of the State League championship.

The kick off for tonight's game is 6.00 pm.

KB DOWN

Newcastle KB United lost 1-3 at home to St. George last week.

Ken Boden scored New-

CHALLENGES STATE

VICTORIA 0 WISLA KRAKOW 1 (Mieciak 72nd. min) at Olympic Park.

Crowd: About 5000.

Weather: mild

Referee: Chris Bambridge 8.

Cautions: Kalafatis (Vic), Skrobowski (Wisla), Motyka (Wisla), Tansey (Vic).

Ratings:

VICTORIA: Banovic 7.5; Kalafatis 7.5; Kokoska 8, Yzendoorn 9, Tansey 9; Gardiner 7 (Tront 76th) Rooney 7; Picione 7; Cumming 7.5 Gilder 7.5; Paton 8 (injured., sub Cole 65th).

WISLA KRAKOW: Gonet 7.5; Skrobowski 7.5; (Targosz 67th). Budka 7.5; Maculewicz 9, Plaszewski 8; (Gazda 76th); Jalocho 6 (Motyka 9, half time), Nawalka 8, Kapka 8; Wrobel 6.5 (Lipka 7, half time), Kmiecik 8, Krupinski 8.

In the 20th minute Jamie Paton, top State League scorer of 1978, had a close-range header from a Tansey cross held by goalkeeper Stanislaw Gonet. (Incidentally, Wisla toured with only the one goalkeeper).

In the 35th minute, Gilder ducked to allow Rooney's free kick to land at the feet of Paton but Gonet was there again, to block at point-blank range. Then Cumming at the far post, ran onto a cross from Gardiner and would surely have scored had Wisla winger Janusz Krupinski not dashed into defence to stop the little Croatia striker in the nick of time. Victoria was playing it so tightly that Wisla had to wait until the 27th minute for its first shot at goal — a speculative 30-metre drive from Kapka.

Moments later Kalafatis was shown the yellow card by referee Chris Bambridge for bringing down his opponent, Michal Wrobel, for the second time and then Banovic, playing his first game for Victoria, did well to punch out a shot by Nawalka from the edge of the penalty area. Wisla was restricted by the defence to long-range shots. One of them,



Slavia's John Yzendoorn, Victoria's star against Wisla, breaks away from an opponent.

by Maculewicz, caught a deflection which deceived Banovic, but luckily for Victoria, it whistled over the bar.

Wisla's blond, 17-year-old right back Skrobowski was booked for a foul on Paton just before the Poles' most dangerous raid of the first half.

A sustained attack by Victoria gave Wisla the opening for a fast counter-attack. A long ball found Kaz Kmiecik but he hesitated too long on the ball and eventually got into trouble after foolishly deciding not to push the ball wide for Plaszewski running free.

At half time, coach Orest Lenczyk replaced Wrobel and Jan Lalocho with Leszek Lipka and Marek Motyka, and it was Motyka's appearance that transformed the Wisla team into a more aggressive outfit.

Motyka went to left back, Lipka to the right wing and Plaszewski from left back to midfield.

Four minutes after half time, a great hook shot by Paton from close range was turned for a corner by Gonet and at the other end Banovic — possibly Australia's best goalkeeper — dived on a low shot by Lipka.

Paton went down injured and as he received treatment on the sideline, Gary Cole started to warm up.

In the 58th minute Motyka went on one of his many forays into attack, skirted the defence on the edge of the penalty area and launched a good shot but Banovic flew well to save.

Paton limped back on after three minutes of treatment as Picione's shot caught Gonet by surprise but flashed just wide of the post.

After limping for a while, Paton finally had to retire, and Cole came on, looking a little overweight after his holiday in the U.K.

Cumming played a fine through ball which Cole ran into the penalty area but Plaszewski ran the big striker down before he could shoot.

At the other end Maculewicz sent a crashing 30-metre drive towards goal but once again, Banovic made an impressive save.

The winning goal came in the 72nd minute. Motyka took the ball across the field from left back, into the right wing corner where he released it to Kapka.

Kapka cut it back off the line and Kmiecik put it into the net, although Banovic still managed to get a hand to it.

Wisla's superior strength, skill and running power had the Victorians with their backs against the wall now, as Kmiecik side-stepped Kalafatis and forced Banovic to make another save.

In the 76th minute Kaz Gazda came on to replace Plaszewski and Joe Tront replaced Gardiner.

Not long after coming on, Gonet desperately punched clear a long shot from Tront and in the last few minutes both Motyka and Tansey were shown the yellow card for fouling opponents.

McKendry said after the game: "Wisla had to produce its utmost to beat us. It was only bad bloody luck that prevented us from scoring in the first half."

"I was pleased with the way we played the ball early to feet, the way we had been practicing. Sure, they put the pressure on us in the last 20 minutes, but we withstood it and we came back with that run by Cole and the shot by Tront."

"We were able to put much more organised pressure on them all over the field than the Australian team did in Sydney."

John Yzendoorn was magnificent as sweeper, and Jim Tansey had a great game at left back. Both should be included in the national squad. And Cole showed when he came on what an electrifying, exciting player he can be.

Yakka Banovic was also excellent. He didn't have many difficult shots to contend with, but what he did, he did very well. He too should be in the national squad.

"What this game showed is that the best State League players can compete well at representative level."

Polish coach Orest Lenczyk cleared up the confusion over the absence of World Cup player Antoni Szymanski.

It appears Szymanski was transferred to Gwardia six months ago!

The only other stars who were missing were strikers Andrzej Iwan and Henryk Szymanski. Iwan had had trouble with the club committee and was also out of form, and Szymanski was left at home because he was ill, Lenczyk said.

Aust. tour boosts European Cup hopes

Wisla's coach Orest Lenczyk was full of praise for the Victorian team after Saturday's game.

"Your boys talked hard and were ideal sparring partners for us, forcing us to give our best. We couldn't have done better than to tour Australia in preparation for the important European Cup matches which we have to play back home at the beginning of March," he said.

"This year's frozen conditions in Poland were a setback in our preparation for the Spring season."

"As a team the Victorians made a much better impression than the Queenslanders, although your coach still has a big job in front of him, particularly in the attacking zone."

"The Victorian forwards lack system and confidence. I am pleased with my team and the forwards used every opportunity given to them by the midfielders."

"Your Olympic Park oval is ideal, the weather conditions were perfect and as a whole the game against Victoria was a first-class spectacle from a coach's point of view."

Asked what he thinks about our referees, Mr Lenczyk said that it was a pleasant surprise to him that they are as good if not better than European whistle men.

After the game, at a well attended function players and officials of both sides were presented with opals — a gift from Opal Den — by the manager of the company, Mr Les Brown.

MENO TOUTSIDIS' REPORT ON WISLA'S MATCH AGAINST SOUTH AUSTRALIA YESTERDAY (TUESDAY) WILL APPEAR NEXT WEEK.

Manecas the new PSL superstar?

By PETER SCOTT

One of the most exciting players ever to have appeared in Philips League action, Afro-Portuguese star Manecas, may be back in action in this country within a few weeks.



Manecas

He first dazzled Aussie fans in 1977, during a six-week guest appearance with Hakoah and almost since the day of his return to Portugal, the Blues have been trying to get his signature on a long-term contract.

Now it seems that the protracted negotiations may come to a successful conclusion, in return for the second highest transfer fee ever agreed to by an Australian club, exceeded only by the \$40,000 paid by APLA for Italian veteran Rosario Rampanti.

However, Sydney City (Hakoah's new identity in the PSL) is not going ahead in its determined attempt to snare Manecas only on the basis of his performances almost two years ago.

Coach Gerry Chaidi, dastured from Brazil to Portugal during his off-season scouting tour last December and after seeing Manecas in first division action for his club Beira Mar, is convinced that the bearded Angolan is a better player now than he was in 1977.

A utility man, capable of play-

ing almost any position, Manecas is the current captain and right-halfback of Beira Mar, a team struggling to retain first division status.

Whether they succeed or not may have a vital bearing on Manecas' bid to move to Australia.

With the PSL deadline for registering new players set for May 1, Sydney City insists that Manecas must arrive sometime in April — at the latest.

Beira Mar is equally determined to hang on to his services as long as possible.

However, with all financial details — transfer fees and personal contract — virtually agreed on, it would surprise if Manecas wasn't back in Sydney City's familiar blue shirt before the deadline.

At the age of 26, he is in the prime of his footballing life and is one of the top stars of the Portuguese League.

However, Portuguese footballers are among the lower paid professionals in Europe, certainly earning nowhere near the astronomical sums available in Italy, Spain and Germany, for example. Having tasted the pleasures of life in Sydney, Manecas is aware that as a part-time pro with Sydney City, he will have the chance to establish a career for himself in a business or profession, ensuring his future after retirement from the game.

He is more than likely to get the enthusiastic help of the club's members, most of whom adopted him as their favorite son during

his previous short sojourn in Sydney.

In fact, Manecas' popularity was only exceeded by Hakoah's Israeli stars of the early sixties, Rafi Levy and Gerry Chaidi, the latter now the club's highly successful coach.

If Manecas reappears in the PSL, he will be the first current first division player from Europe to sign for an Australian club in many years.

He will be coming to Australia with his wife, whom he married after his return from Australia.

Whether Manecas joins the Blues or not, Portuguese will be almost like a second language at Sydney City this year, in the wake of the arrival last Saturday of three young Brazilians.

Misart, Marcos and Nello signed three year contracts with the club during coach Chaidi's scouting trip to Rio a couple of months ago.

They will join City's eight year veteran Hilton Silva, formerly of Vasco de Gama, who made his first appearance in an Australian XI against Wisla Krakow this month.

The three newcomers had their first training session with City last Monday afternoon.

Sydney City's playing strength will be further boosted by the arrival next Sunday of the club's experienced sweeper Eddie Thomson, back from a holiday in his native Scotland.

Thomson will be accompanied by the club's latest capture, former Dundee defender Ian Bruce.

Doveton gains

Doveton (Vic.) may sign three State League players to strengthen its squad.

Gordon Bentley, Alan Quinn (Albion Rovers) and Alec McConville (George Cross) have all shown interest in joining Doveton.

At this stage, only Bentley seems certain to join Doveton. Quinn is training with Kellor Austria, and is undecided which club he will join. He is a free agent after his contract with Albion Rovers was broken last season.

McConville's high price tag has ended hope of a quick transfer. Doveton will have to do some

hard bargaining with George Cross if it wants the stocky full back.

Pat McElhinney has transferred to Morwell Falcons, and young full back Jimmy Wilson is training with Slavia.

Doveton coach Danny McMinimee has been re-appointed. Doveton has a new ground, although it is in the same complex as the old one.

The new pitch at Waratah Reserve was developed by the local council at a cost of \$30,000.

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Why did St. George lose its top men?

My 15-year association with St. George Budapest started in 1961 when coach Joe Vlasits and club president Sigi Bordacs approached me while I was playing for Blacktown in the NSW Second Division.

I was reluctant to sign with a bigger club until the signing-on fee was negotiated. As a 19-year-old of modest standard, I jumped at the \$50 quid offered! I had to add only a few extra pounds to make up the deposit on a new Volkswagen.

That was the start of a 16-year period which has left me with many fond memories of the game and the people in it.

During this time, I only once had any inclination to leave St. George. That was in 1969 when we couldn't agree on terms. I was put on transfer for what was then an Australian record fee of \$14,000. No-one wanted a defender for that price and it wasn't long before we re-negotiated and I happily signed for Saints at a slightly increased fee.

My first game with Saints was a night fixture against Yugal and we won 4-2. I was given a run because Tibor Zuckermann was injured and from then until I retired as a player, I made more than 300 first team appearances.

Every player has his best and worst times during his career. My best was in 1972 when I wrapped up the season by winning the NSW Rothmans Medal as the best and fairest player of the year.



Peter Banicevic

My worst time, needless to say, was when I damaged my knee cartilage playing for NSW against Birmingham City at Wentworth Park.

It is with pride that I can now claim that the man responsible for that injury was Britain's first million-pound player, Trevor Francis. He took me for a run and my knee simply gave way. I was in hospital for a while but resumed playing within five weeks, even though some had written me off.

Many great players have passed through the ranks at St. George over the years, and to be honest, some bad mistakes were made in letting some of these players leave the side.

They were too good to be allowed to leave. The name that comes to mind immediately is Adrian "Noddy" Alston. He was sold to Safeway United and when he left, the team lost much of its punch up front.

It is of course history now that Alston went on to become a professional with Luton Town, Cardiff and the Tampa Bay Rowdies.

Incidentally, Adrian and his brother have recently bought a hotel in Blackpool, England.

In the last month or so, I have sat down and tried to work out a line-up of all-time St. George greats. After much thought, this is how it came out:

Frank Haffey; Doug Ujens; Frank Williams; Peter Banicevic; Tibor Zuckermann; Hugo Rodriguez; Matt Krigin; Attila Abonyi; John Galembo; Johnny Warren; Vic Fernandez.

The club has been so strong over the years that the following



Attila Abonyi (left) scores in Saints' 6-2 victory over Japan 'B' in the 1971 three-nation tournament won by Saints in Tokyo.

"reserve" team would be almost as strong as the first line-up.

Gross: Stogbauer, Harris; Isaac, Hillery, Gergely; Todd, Massey, Alston, Yardley, Schumann.

For obvious reasons, I have not selected myself in the side but I would love to have played in either one.

There is an age-old argument in soccer that players "make" coaches or coaches "make" players. Anyone who has positive thoughts on either angle isn't likely to change on my say-so, but in my case, I feel that the motivation required to do, well came from within.

I WANTED to play representative soccer and I set myself on a course which enabled me to achieve all I wanted from the game.

The coaches at St. George over my period of 15 years, had steady terms and achieved results. Un-

fortunately, like any great club, a lean period followed the many years of success. As everyone knows, St. George has not won much in recent seasons.

Just like in 1968, when Saints finished second last in the NSW competition, the very same officials of 10 years ago again over-reacted to the extent of making panic decisions.

Still, I believe that if the important maestro, Joe Giel, is given a free rein and full co-operation by the board of directors and the soccer committee, the St. George club will get the results they have been looking for so desperately.

For what it's worth, I played under eight different coaches and although some may not agree with me, the most professional of them was, in my opinion, Rale Rasic.

Perhaps because I had been closely associated with him in the national side as well as our club side for so long, I thought St. George was wrong in letting him leave.

Running a very close second to Rasic is a man for whom I have utmost respect as a manager and coach, Frank Ark.

When I was a player, I found Ark to be the most well-organized of any football administrators, especially in NSW.

But when I finished my playing career in 1974, the best manager by far, and a man who actually made money for the club, was Johnny Warren. Saints could have done worse than to hire him to do the job that Warren is now doing for Sydney City.

The best overseas tour I made apart from the trip to Germany for the 1974 World Cup finals, was with St. George to Japan in 1971. That was the first time any Australian club team had taken such a tour. It was highly successful in all aspects and it set St. George up as Australia's most professional and progressive club.

We won an international tournament in Tokyo, against Japan A, Japan B and the Danish club Fram, which featured several Danish internationals.

Looking back over the 15 years, I would be less than honest if I did not admit to some degree of sadness over the way the club and I parted company, but more about that later.

One of the tragedies of the 15



Schaefer's Shots

years was that no matter what promotion the club put into the game, the crowds never averaged more than 1500 or 2000 at home games.

I hope they improve. Players cannot produce their best consistently when they have to toil in front of empty stands.

This brings up the old argument about the standard of the game. I agree it is not as good as on the Continent or in England, but then this is not the Continent, nor is it England. This is Australia and although we may never become as good as our overseas counterparts, it is no excuse for people to boycott the game they say they love.

Summing up what has been a big part of my life, I enjoyed my time with St. George and if I had my time over again, I hope that my playing career at least, would follow exactly the same lines, ending with a grand final win after having played in the 1974 World Cup finals.

However, my experience of coaching has had a different effect on my life and my career. I will deal with that subject in greater detail at a later date.

Next week, I will write about my international career.



Recognise the kid with the short back and sides? It's Johnny Warren. At right is Vic Fernandez, another of Saints' all-time greats, now coach of Canberra.

PRIME MINISTER'S CUP

Canberra's commercial television station, CTC-7 is discussing the possibility of arranging a direct telecast of the Prime Minister's Cup match between City and Newcastle KB United in Newcastle on March 4.

Talks about a direct telecast also have been held with RVN-2 Wagga, AMV-4 Albury and MTM-9 Griffith television stations to show the match on a cost-sharing basis throughout NSW country regions.

Prime Minister's Cup was invited to further strengthen the bonds between the two clubs.

However, contact between Canberra soccer teams and teams from the Newcastle area goes back many years and resulted from the hard work of ACT Soccer Federation officials.

ACTSFC

The ACT Soccer Federation's future looks rosy. Any games strength is in its youngsters and Canberra soccer's potential increases year by year.

Proof came last Saturday when more than 4000 youngsters were registered by ACT junior soccer clubs.

One of them, Belconnen, registered about 1,300 youngsters. It claims to be Australia's biggest soccer club.

And to keep itself before the public eye, the ACT Soccer Federation will this week advertise for a paid part-time director of publicity.

It is understood that the appointee will be expected to co-ordinate all of the Federation's publicity, including newsworthy items from individual clubs.

Shoulder's offer ignored

By PETER WINDSOR

Canberra City will raise its admission charges by 50% for the 1979 season.

The charge will rise from \$2 to \$3. And children - previously admitted free - will have to pay 50 cents.

However, children can gain admission to all games for \$4 by joining the Canberra City Juniors' Club.

What City's Board of Directors is gambling on is that the team's supporters will be prepared to pay the rise to see the best standard of soccer in the national capital.

As one cynical fan remarked, "Canberra's only choice anyway!"

"But will they lose more than they gain?" he queried.

It is indeed a big gamble. The answer obviously will depend on how well City performs on the park.

If the team performs well, the goodwill and support will be immense and as soccer fans the world over can testify, they will pay the earth to watch a successful team.

Failures aren't tolerated. And City must succeed in 1979. This is the year that counts, this is the year relegation begins.

There cannot be another second-to-bottom for the third successive year. Despite this, City's board of directors was notoriously slow to gain new players - and also lost one of the PSL's best in Tony Henderson to Marconi.

However, they have signed Scottish midfielder Isaac Farrell, plus a Manchester United reserve player, George Bailey and former Stoke City man Mike Smith.

Bailey should arrive within the next fortnight - hopefully in time for City's first one-season home game against Brisbane City at Bruce Stadium on Sunday, February 25.



Former Soccer Australia coach Jim Shoulder (left) has offered to act as unpaid talent scout for Canberra. At the moment, former Wests coach Mike Laing (right) is doing the job.

But these are the minuses. There have also many positive steps taken by Canberra City board of directors in the close season.

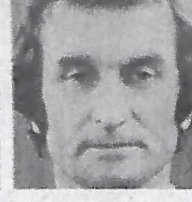
The appointment of experienced soccer administrator Max Talbot as secretary of the licensed club must rate among the best - the second was to elevate Vic Fernandez from assistant coach to coach.

The third must be to gain the total advertising concession for the whole of Bruce Stadium and the fourth to pay a flat rate rather than a percentage of gate takings is that the National Capital Development Commission has let a \$170,000 contract to Barker and Taylor, of Canberra, to upgrade the lighting on Bruce's main stand, but more importantly to light the Stadium's oval.

The other tremendous news is that the National Capital Development Commission has let a \$170,000 contract to Barker and Taylor, of Canberra, to upgrade the lighting on Bruce's main stand, but more importantly to light the Stadium's oval.

And Shoulder is now in an ideal position to help. He was recently appointed assistant manager of Second Division club Sunderland and in letters to friends in Canberra has said he would be prepared to help anytime Canberra City asked him.

He would help at no cost, whereas City is now paying for every player passed its way by former Western Suburbs coach, Mike Laing.



Former Soccer Australia coach Jim Shoulder (left) has offered to act as unpaid talent scout for Canberra. At the moment, former Wests coach Mike Laing (right) is doing the job.

Barker and Taylor's Canberra manager, Mr M. Holley, said the training area lighting would be of a high standard.

The training area will be divided into two training pitches and the lighting will comprise four, twenty-metre high columns," he said.

"Six quartz lights will be suspended from each of the columns. We have already begun the contract and we will be finished on schedule by April 18," Mr Holley said.

And next year the main Bruce Stadium arena could be floodlit.

However, the initial lighting will not be adequate for color television purposes. But it will still be adequate for international matches and will cost between \$300,000 and \$500,000.

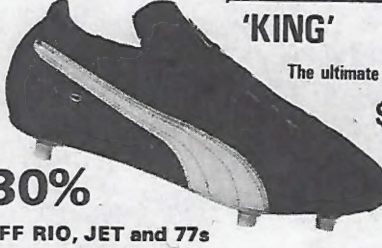
The design for the lighting has already been completed and it is now up to the Department of the Capital Territory to approve funding.

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World Cup no place for under 19s



Peter Wilson



Jimmy Rooney



Branko Buljevic

While attention is now focused on the under 19 team in South America, what happens there will have little bearing on our World Cup bid.

I say this not to detract from some of the team's performances nor from the excellent players in the side. But the fact is that probably none of the under 19 players will play in the Australian World Cup bid.

I make this statement in contradiction to the reported remarks by coach Rudi Gutendorf that the under 19 team will be the basis of his World Cup squad.

Despite their immense po-

tential, these young men do not measure up to some of the senior players now playing in Australia.

Midfielder Alan Davidson, strikers Eddie Kmcovic and Graham Jennings, plus centre back Ian Rowden are the pick of the under 19s but with the possible exception of Rowden and Kmcovic I cannot see any of the youngsters figuring in Gutendorf's World Cup plans.

Kevin Mullen, Bob Russell (Adel. City. ex-Syd Croatia) Col



MIKE JOHNSON

Bennett, David Jones, Peter Wilson, Tony Handerson, Paul Degney and Vic Bozanic are among Australia's top defenders.

The World Cup midfielders could come from Peter Stone, John Stevenson, Murray Barnes, Jim Rooney, Joe

Piccone, Neil McGachey and John O'Shea.

Up front is where Australia is most short of talent, but here the pick is Peter Shorne, Mark Jankovic, Phil O'Connor, Ken Boden, Clive Eaton, Gary Cole and Branko Buljevic, all vastly experienced.

While on the one hand reportedly saying that the under 19 team would be the basis of our World Cup bid, Gutendorf was earlier reported as saying that he preferred experienced players.

With this I agree and that being the case, I do not see any reason for not seriously considering Peter Wilson, Jim Rooney and Branko Buljevic during the World Cup build-up.

The three of them have just passed the 30 mark, but all are also extremely dedicated and fit and of course exceptional players.

They are also leaders, and no team can have too many of those.

All my career I have championed the cause of young Australian players, putting my ideas into practice while guiding Sutherland to the NSW First Division and following that at St George. At both clubs I developed players like Steve Perry, Colin Bennett, John Roche, Allan Mahar, Neville Morgan, Mark Jankovic, John O'Shea - all Australian internationals.

Nevertheless, I have always believed that good experienced players who have developed character as well as skill are the best basis of any team, especially so in the white hot competition of World Cup play.

What the under 19 team has shown is that young Australian players are inching their way closer to the standards of top nations overseas.

The tour and the earlier pre-tour trip 19 games also indicated that we have a coach who knows his trade.

Both signs give cause for optimism in the future.



VICTORIAN AMPOL CUP

IS IT THE END FOR CROATIA?

By KYLE PATTERSON

Ampol Cup holder Essendon Croatia could be knocked out of contention for the final stages of the night series when it faces in-form Prahran Slavia at Olympic Park on Friday night.

Croatia's shock opening ground defeat by George Cross has left it in a position where it must gain maximum points from Friday's game or fall too far behind.

Slavia gave the most impressive first round display when it defeated Frankston City 1-0 and has moved into fourth.

Croatia must counter Slavia's striking duo Jamie Paton and Steve Aldridge and the high work-rate of Prahran's midfield.

Slavia will have problems with Tommy Cunningham and Carl Glider, and may not have an answer to the power of Alan Kerr in midfield.

Prahran is a small, fast side but the strength and aggression of Kerr, Steve Koska and Ante Blavac could break up Slavia's rhythm.

But Slavia proved it has ample fighting spirit to overcome such disadvantages. Last season, when struck heavily by injury, it managed to beat Croatia, the league champion 2-1.

Paton scored both goals, and will no doubt be aiming to give Croatia a repeat dose.

In the other league game between the two last season, played at Olympic park, Croatia won 4-0.

Maltese rivals George

AMPOL CUP SECOND ROUND
Friday night, Olympic Park Athletic Field
ESSENDON CROATIA v PRAHRAN SLAVIA 7.30 pm
GEORGE CROSS v GREEN GULLY 9.00 pm
Saturday, at Kim Reserve, Altona
FRANKSTON CITY v ALBION ROVERS 2.00 pm
HAKOAH ST. KILDA v ALTONA CITY 3.15 pm
Sunday, at S. T. Connor Reserve, Preston
JUVENTUS v CROYDON CITY 2.00 pm
PRESTON MAKEDONIA v SUNSHINE CITY 3.15 pm

Cross and Green Gully clash in the other game on Friday night.

Both won their opening round games, and will be looking for maximum points to put one foot in the door of the semi-finals.

Billy Vojtek's Green Gully only scraped home against unfancied Albion Rovers, and will have to lift its game considerably if it is to match George Cross.

The Cross is minus several key players, but with stout defensive work and enthusiastic forward play, managed to hold Croatia scoreless, then snatch a win on penalties.

George Cross is extremely

fit for so early in the season and inspired play by Jim Paparas and Ray Mizzi complements the hard graft.

Last season the rival clubs met three times. Green Gully won once (5-0) and George Cross came out on top twice (3-0, 2-0).

Gully will be looking for big games from Willie Vassallo, Steve Carr and David Parkin.

On Saturday Ampol Cup action goes to Kim Reserve, Altona.

The Frankston v Albion clash doesn't carry much appeal. Both teams are still experimenting with their line-ups, and aren't producing much at the moment.

But Frankston will expect recent buys Willie Coulson and Abe Brown to show more than they did in their debut.

Frankston's defence is in disarray and coach Freddy Buncie may introduce former Albion defender Danny McCluskey.

Albion coach Mike Lynn used several unknown players in Albion's 1-2 loss to Green Gully but will be looking for improvement rather than expecting a win.

However, with Frankston playing so poorly, Albion could snatch the points.

Host club Altona is tackled by Hakoah. Joe Wilson's boys slumped against Croydon last week but on their home ground will do better.

George Wattars always works hard in midfield, and will be looking for support from Terry Benagan.

But Altona will struggle until Bob Taylor returns from England and new import Harry Hird arrives. Both are strikers.

Hakoah ambled to victory over Preston but its defence is still not as tight as it should be.

Hakoah's midfield of Ian Gibson, Bill Jordanou and Stuart Blair is strong.

B. T. Connor Reserve, Preston, is the venue for Sunday's Ampol Cup action.

State League new boys Croydon City take on Juventus in the first game, and I expect them to win comfortably.

The midfield combination of Pat Lowrey, Joe Trout, and Duncan Smith is possibly the best in the league, and their ability to create openings for strikers Roy Hamilton and Jim Wyllie should see Croydon bag some more goals.

Juve's defence is potentially strong, but the team's forward line is non-existent.

Home team Preston faces a hard game against the bustling Sunshine.

Preston hopes winger Jeff Faulkner and striker George McMillan will fire, because Preston will find it hard to prise open Sunshine's defence.

I think the second-round winners will be Slavia, George Cross, Frankston, Hakoah, Croydon and Preston.



Former Maltese national team captain Willie Vassallo - Ajax's trump card against George Cross.



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Happy faces at the signing of Sutherland's sponsorship deal with local paper 'The Voice.' John Watkiss (far left), Frank Dowling ('The Voice,' left), Fred Power (Sutherland president, right) and Laurie Haynes (committeeman, far right).

Backed by the Press

Sutherland's new sponsors are their very own local paper, "The Voice," who have agreed to sponsor the Sharks for this season with a further one-year option.

The deal has placed Sutherland in a position where they can now improve their ground facilities and promotions, as well as fitting out their entire first grade squad with tailor-made suits.

"We are pleased to be associated with such a professional and ambitious club," "The Voice's" managing director, Mr Frank Dowling, said this week.

"Sutherland have a tremendous following in the district and we hope to maintain that through our sponsorship.

"If everything goes all right in '79, we may sponsor Sutherland next year as well," he said.



Captain Peter Wykes makes a victory speech after the 1978 Grand Final against Croatia.



Sutherland's 1948 team which won the First Division Metropolitan league championship.

SUTHERLAND

Sharks prove that local talent has what it takes

By ALEX VESIC

Casuals Soccer Club was formed in 1936 by a group of people which included George Swatbridge, Bill Tanner and George McKrell. The Club was formed by a breakaway group from Sutherland United and was soon to make its name in the local competition.

For the next five years a bunch of notable names played for the Casuals under 16's and under 18's, including Dave Griffith (the father of Alan and Ron Griffith — Avala's players), Evan Cragge (the father of Sutherland's giant goalkeeper Phil Cragge), Arthur Holmes, Ray Fenton, Alan Smith, Bill and Ernie Turner etc.

During the war Casuals continued to exist, bringing a number of new players into the club, Ray Bloxham, Jeffrey Loveday, Alan Tredennick, Bob Miller, Bill Gerard and Ron Fletcher being the most prominent.

In 1944, the Casuals joined St George Association Junior league, represented by teams from under-12 to under-18, and also had the all-age team in the second grade Metropolitan League.

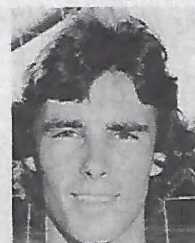
The all-age team finished second in the 1947 premiership and followed up with its first premiership win in 1948. The team was beaten in the Cup final in 1948, only a step short of the double that they were to win 30 years later.

An application to join the NSW State League was rejected after the 1948 premiership win, due to the ground not being enclosed.

The club obtained its new ground — Le Haynes Paddock at the beginning of the 1948 season, but lacked finance to fence it off. A few years later the famous paddock was abandoned (the site of today's Sutherland Hospital) and an application was lodged with the local council for the lease of Seymour Shaw Park for 25 years.

In 1953 the first move to join the NSW Junior Association was made and soon after, in 1955, the club decided to change its name to Sutherland Shire Soccer Football Club.

The club had its headquarters at the Sutherland Oval and was accepted to play in the Southern Leagues competition.



Gary Byrne



Colin Bennett



Steve Perry — now with Brisbane City.

With Seymour Shaw Park still unplayable, Sutherland continued to play at Sutherland Oval in 1956, while construction and improvement of facilities was carried out at their future ground.

In its initial season in the NSW State league Third division, Sutherland Shire played at Sutherland Oval, but were soon to transfer to Seymour Shaw.

Winning the Third Division premiership in 1956, Sutherland was finally on the way to achieving its goal in the NSW competition. The last two games in 1956 Sutherland won convincingly, beating Hornsby Epping 7-2 and Polonia 1-0.

Scoring the winning goal in the second half of the game Sutherland forward Bob Miller made sure of Sutherland's place in the Second Division NSW competition for 1957. An improved Seymour Shaw Park became the new ground for the home venues and the club was looking forward to winning and becoming a member of the top division of soccer clubs in NSW.

For all those who believe that Sutherland has always been an amateur club, history shows otherwise. After becoming a member of the newly formed Second Division of NSW Federation of Soccer

clubs, the club decided to make a serious attempt to get into the First Division.

Eric Mitrovic, a highly regarded coach, was hired and a number of players with professional experience were signed by the club to boost its playing strength. This, of course cost a lot of money and when the attempt failed, after only one season, the club was left almost broke.

Following this near disaster, the club's committee decided to build its own social club with which to back the soccer club.

Two players were sold from the 1962 team to meet the costs of the previous season and the build-up period which lasted between 1963 and 1967 was one of frustration and near disaster, when the club was almost relegated to amateur ranks.

But the efforts of club members to raise the foundation for its own social club were not in vain. After the 1962 debacle, club members knew that with the money provided by the social club, First Division status could be achieved.

In 1967 the social club was opened and the soccer club took two fourth places in successive years.

In 1969 Mike Johnson, a prominent coach and an ex-

First Division player in England — and a "Soccer Action" columnist — took over the reins at Sutherland.

Despite the operation of the licensed club, the soccer club was living on limited finances and was hard pressed to keep its best players.

In 1971 Col Harwood, the president and the club's committee, decided on retaining the players for the season, hoping that with the services of Johnson, the ex-Fulham and Newcastle player, the club might finally reach the heights of the First Division.

With two games to go, Sutherland and Granville led the competition, while Melita Eagles were in third spot, only a point behind. It was a close race, with three teams vying for the top spot. The following weekend Sutherland opened the gaps after both Melita and Granville had dropped valuable points.

Melita drew with Bankstown, while Granville could only manage a point against Corinthians.

With a one-point advantage, and having to play Manly in the last competition game, Sutherland were odds on to take the title and clinch a First Division spot.

And this they did as true champions, crushing Manly by four goals to one.

Granville also won, by 3-0 against Concordia, but the oldest Club in NSW had to be satisfied with second spot, finishing a point behind Sutherland.

Johnson's faith in his youngsters proved well-placed and despite some early setbacks in the following season, Sutherland was on the way to becoming one of the State's most powerful outfits.

True, in its first couple of years of competition in the top division, Sutherland battled hard to avoid relegation, finishing second last in 1972 and 1973.

For those who might be interested in the bunch of youngsters who played in their initial season in top division, let's look at some of the names:

Alan Maher (later Marconi, NSW and Australia)

Steve Perry (later Wests, Brisbane City, NSW and Australia)

Col Bennett (Apia, Brisbane Lions and Australia)

Jan Cudek (later Marconi)

Geoff Morgan (now St George)

Shung Nam Kim (South Korean international)

Paul Degney (now Marconi and Australia)

Gary Byrne (soon back at Marconi, also Australian rep.)

Peter Wykes, John Lavin, Joe Cacciola and many more.

And what of players who were raised at Sutherland and sold during the clubs financial crisis, like Alan Griffiths and John Roche, the latter representing Australia on many occasions.

One of the rare clubs to strive for development of Australian youth in soccer, Sutherland never hesitated to venture into "foreign" waters when it came to choosing a top coach, but at the same time attempted to hold its coach over a longer period of time, which eventually does bring a higher success rate.

A total of 11 coaches have been used by the club in its 43-year history, but I am sure you will find that other clubs would change up to three coaches a season to achieve success.



Sutherland's 1956 First Grade team.

THE STAR MAKERS



Sutherland's 1978 Ampol Cup winning team: (left to right, standing) Bill Hodges (manager), Schumann, Dalforno, Wykes, Hesford, Watkiss, Hall. Bottom row (left to right) — Tasker, Harrington, Craggs, Hall, Beggs, Basterfield, Meades.



John Watkiss

Sutherland's Superman, that's Watkiss

John Watkiss, 37, a household name in Australian soccer, a man one might like to refer to as the Superman of Sutherland, is still playing and guiding his young team mates through tender years with all his guile and knowledge and with enthusiasm which can't be surpassed.

Sutherland Shire Sharks, the soccer club which so proudly represented its district in last year's NSW State League and Ampol Cup, NSW State League and Ampol Cup, celebrated its 43rd birthday by beating hot favourites for this years Ampol Cup, Philips League giant, Marconi-Fairfield.

Stacked with teenagers, Sutherland made history in last years Ampol Cup with a decisive win over Melita Eagles in the Cup final, then lifted themselves from the brink of defeat to outlast the Premiers, Croatia, in the State

League grand final with a 2:1 win. It was a unique success in the club's history and a just reward for their faith in their young players.

Led by ex-Socceroo, Johnny Watkiss, the Sutherland youngsters proved too much for the much fancied Melita Eagles in the Ampol Cup, but few believed that

Sutherland were strong enough to cause a surprise against the starstudded Croatia. Yet, the Sutherland fans proved everyone wrong. After a great recovery in the second half of the grand final, the Sharks forced a replay. In their second attempt, Croatia dominated the first half and led by one goal to nil,

pointing to an easy victory for the tri-colors. With nothing to lose and everything to gain, Sutherland attacked and soon had its opponents down for the count with two fine second-half goals. The hero of this great win was none other than the ex-Socceroo, the mastermind of

Captain and long serving member of the squad, Peter Wykes, great defenders Del Forno and Schumann, Abonyi's "shadow", Jimmy Basterfield and the young Socceroo, Craig Hall, formed the backbone of the winning combination.

For all those who doubted the ability of Sutherland, two Cups in one season (after a mere seven years in top competition) should be enough to prove that the club has taken the correct approach in building its team and in giving it youngsters the chance they deserved. — ALEX VESIC

His efforts in past years were called "a fluke" by some people I know, but many have forgotten that the same team was in the Ampol Cup final the year before last (losing to Avala 1:0), and that only a couple of weeks ago they managed to beat the Cup favourites, Marconi by — 2:1.

With more than 16,000 youngsters playing soccer in the area, the club doesn't have to worry about its future supply of soccer talent.

The club's treasurer doesn't have to dig deep to pay the club's budding stars, and this is what prompted Roger Dewick, a member of the Sutherland club, to comment recently:

"When a comparatively small club like Sutherland can do so well with the locals, imagine how much better the wealthy clubs would do."

John Watkiss has served his country at representative level and continues to do so at club level.

His future as well as that of the young Sutherland hopefuls is secure. As for all the young lads of Sutherland Shire, they know they'll get a fair go at Seymour Shaw Park and that's the success story of the Sutherland Sharks. — ALEX VESIC

Marconi's scalp added to collection

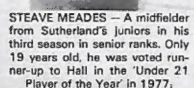
Meet the players



CRAIG HALL — Eighteen years of age, a striker who has played for the new South Wales senior team. At present he is in South America with the Australian under 19 team. Twice voted Sports Writers' Under 21 Player of the Year.



JIM BASTERFIELD — Another locally-produced player. He spent a few seasons with St. George, but returned to Sutherland and made a name for himself. He blotted out Atti Abonyi, the former Socceroo star, in last season's grand final, which was a big factor in Sutherland's win. 22 years of age.



STEEVE MEADES — A midfielder from Sutherland's Juniors in his third season in senior ranks. Only 19 years old, he was voted runner-up to Hall in the 'Under 21 Player of the Year' in 1977.



PETER WYKES — Sutherland's longest serving player. He is a full back and captain of the team but hasn't gained recognition outside Sutherland for his excellent performances over the years a very strong defender.



VIC DALFORN — A solid central defender who came to Sutherland 11 years ago. Probably Sutherland's most consistent player.



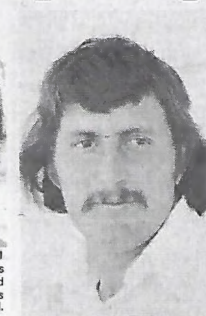
KEITH SCHUMANN — Only 21 years old. His performances as sweeper in the Sutherland defence over the past two years have been consistently good. Rudi Gutendorf recognised Schumann's talent and included him in the Australian XI squad for the game against Wisla of Poland.



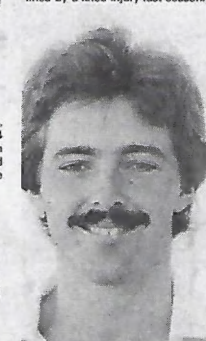
PHILIP CRAGGS — Like Haynes, Craggs is a giant, standing 6 ft 4 ins. tall. He took over from Haynes when he was injured, and did a sound job throughout the season.



PETER BEGGS — Long serving Sutherland striker



MALCOLM HAYNES — Known as the gentle giant at Sutherland, Haynes has great skill and agility for a goalkeeper his size. He started his career with Sutherland before playing in Hakoah Eastern Suburbs' P.S.L. championship win in 1977. Played for Canberra City before returning to Sutherland. The 24-year-old keeper was sidelined by a knee injury last season.



MITCHELL HESFORD — Full back from local club Kinawee. He is in his fourth season with Sutherland. Very fast and excellent at overlapping.



PAUL SMITH — Midfielder, known as the "Iron Man", Sutherland's leading scorer last year. Fully fit again after suffering a severe leg injury.



JOHN STODDART — Midfielder, left St. George for a brief stint with Canberra City, and joined Sutherland this year. Played briefly in Hong Kong.

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Eddie Spearritt (right) of Brisbane Lions gets away from Harry Williams, who joined Canberra City from St. George.



Dixie Deans (Adelaide City)



Brisbane City goalkeeper Kim Wishart



Joe Watson (right) of Sydney City by Mike Pye of South Melbourne George Ch...

1979 PHILIPS

ROUND 8

APIA v Brisbane Lions
Footscray v Adelaide City
Newcastle KB United v Canberra City
Brisbane City v Sydney City
West Adelaide v Marconi
South Melbourne v St. George
Sydney Olympic v Fitzroy United

ROUND 9

St. George v West Adelaide
Canberra City v Sydney Olympic
Brisbane Lions v Newcastle KB United
Sydney City v APIA
Marconi v Brisbane City
Footscray v South Melbourne
+ Adelaide City v Fitzroy United ✓

ROUND 10

Newcastle KB United v Sydney City
APIA v Marconi
South Melbourne v Adelaide City
Sydney Olympic v Brisbane Lions
Brisbane City v St. George
West Adelaide v Footscray
+ Fitzroy United v Canberra City

ROUND 11

Marconi v Newcastle KB Utd.
Footscray v Brisbane City
Brisbane Lions v Fitzroy United
Sydney City v Sydney Olympic
St. George v APIA
South Melbourne v West Adelaide
Adelaide City v Canberra City

ROUND 12

+ Fitzroy United v Sydney City
Sydney Olympic v Marconi
APIA v Footscray
Canberra City v Brisbane Lions
Newcastle KB United v St. George
West Adelaide v Adelaide City
Brisbane City v South Melbourne

ROUND 13

Sydney City v Canberra City
South Melbourne v APIA
Brisbane Lions v Adelaide City
Marconi v Fitzroy United
St. George v Sydney Olympic
Footscray v Newcastle KB Utd.
West Adelaide v Brisbane City

ROUND 1 (March 10-11)

Sydney Olympic v Footscray
Canberra City v Marconi
APIA v West Adelaide
Newcastle KB United v South Melbourne
Adelaide City v Brisbane City
Brisbane Lions v Sydney City
+ Fitzroy United v St. George ✓

ROUND 2

South Melbourne v Sydney Olympic
St. George v Canberra City
+ Footscray v Fitzroy United ✓
Marconi v Brisbane Lions
Sydney City v Adelaide City
West Adelaide v Newcastle KB Utd.
Brisbane City v APIA

ROUND 3

Sydney City v Marconi
+ Fitzroy United v South Melbourne ✓
Brisbane Lions v St. George
Canberra City v Footscray
Sydney Olympic v West Adelaide
Newcastle KB United v Brisbane City
Adelaide City v APIA

ROUND 4

Footscray v Brisbane Lions
Marconi v Adelaide City
APIA v Newcastle KB Utd.
St. George v Sydney City
South Melbourne v Canberra City
West Adelaide v Fitzroy United
Brisbane City v Sydney Olympic

ROUND 5

Canberra City v West Adelaide
Sydney Olympic v APIA
Brisbane Lions v South Melbourne
Sydney City v Footscray
Marconi v St. George
+ Fitzroy United v Brisbane City ✓
Adelaide City v Newcastle KB Utd.

ROUND 6

South Melbourne v Sydney City
St. George v Adelaide City
APIA v Fitzroy United
West Adelaide v Brisbane Lions
Footscray v Marconi
Brisbane City v Canberra City
Newcastle KB United v Sydney Olympic

ROUND 7

Marconi v South Melbourne
+ Fitzroy United v Newcastle KB United ✓
Brisbane Lions v Brisbane City
Sydney City v West Adelaide
St. George v Footscray
Canberra City v APIA
Adelaide City v Sydney Olympic



APIA and Australian under 19 goalkeeper Greg Woodhouse.



John O'Shea (St. George)



Mendo Ristovski (right) of Footscray, with Marconi's Mark Jankovics.



Milutin Ciric (Footscray) saves at the feet of George Campbell (South Melbourne).



Peter Boyle (left) of Canberra City

PHILIPS

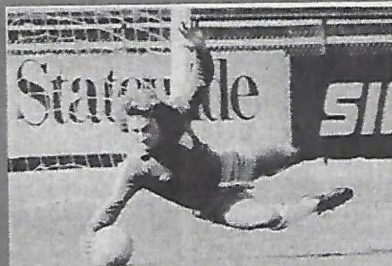
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A shot stopped on the line
is pictured: Jack Reilly and
Paulos.



South Melbourne's Soccerroo goalkeeper
Peter Laumets.

LEAGUE DRAW

ROUND 14
Canberra City v St. George
Newcastle KB United v West Adelaide
APIA v Brisbane City
Brisbane Lions v Marconi
Adelaide City v Sydney City
+ Fitzroy United v Footscray
Sydney Olympic v South Melbourne

ROUND 15
South Melbourne v Newcastle KB Utd.
Footscray v Sydney Olympic
Marconi v Canberra City
West Adelaide v APIA
Brisbane City v Adelaide City
Sydney City v Brisbane Lions
St. George v Fitzroy United

ROUND 16
Brisbane Lions v Footscray
Adelaide City v Marconi
Newcastle KB United v APIA
Sydney City v St. George
Canberra City v South Melbourne
+ Fitzroy United v West Adelaide
Sydney Olympic v Brisbane City

ROUND 17
Marconi v Sydney City
+ South Melbourne v Fitzroy United
St. George v Brisbane Lions
Footscray v Canberra City
West Adelaide v Sydney Olympic
Brisbane City v Newcastle KB United
APIA v Adelaide City

ROUND 18
West Adelaide v Canberra City
APIA v Sydney Olympic
South Melbourne v Brisbane Lions
Footscray v Sydney City
St. George v Marconi
Brisbane City v Fitzroy United
Newcastle KB United v Adelaide City

ROUND 19
Sydney City v South Melbourne
Adelaide City v St. George
+ Fitzroy United v APIA
Brisbane Lions v West Adelaide
Marconi v Footscray
Canberra City v Brisbane City
Sydney Olympic v Newcastle KB United

ROUND 20
South Melbourne v Marconi
+ Newcastle KB United v Fitzroy United
Brisbane City v Brisbane Lions
West Adelaide v Sydney City
Footscray v St. George
APIA v Canberra City
Sydney Olympic v Adelaide City

ROUND 21
Brisbane Lions v APIA
Adelaide City v Footscray
Canberra City v Newcastle KB Utd.
Sydney City v Brisbane City
Marconi v West Adelaide
St. George v South Melbourne
+ Fitzroy United v Sydney Olympic

ROUND 22
West Adelaide v St. George
Sydney Olympic v Canberra City
Newcastle KB United v Brisbane Lions
APIA v Sydney City
Brisbane City v Marconi
South Melbourne v Footscray
+ Fitzroy United v Adelaide City

ROUND 23
Sydney City v Newcastle KB Utd.
Marconi v APIA
Adelaide City v South Melbourne
Brisbane Lions v Sydney Olympic
St. George v Brisbane City
Footscray v West Adelaide
+ Canberra City v Fitzroy United

ROUND 24
Newcastle KB United v Marconi
Brisbane City v Footscray
+ Fitzroy United v Brisbane Lions
Sydney Olympic v Sydney City
APIA v St. George
West Adelaide v South Melbourne
Canberra City v Adelaide City

ROUND 25
Sydney City v Fitzroy United
Marconi v Sydney Olympic
Footscray v APIA
Brisbane Lions v Canberra City
St. George v Newcastle KB United
Adelaide City v West Adelaide
South Melbourne v Brisbane City

ROUND 26
Canberra City v Sydney City
APIA v South Melbourne
Adelaide City v Brisbane Lions
+ Fitzroy United v Marconi
Sydney Olympic v St. George
Newcastle KB United v Footscray
Brisbane City v West Adelaide



Jimmy Rooney
(Fitzroy)



Striker Ken Reed
(APIA)



Striker Eddie
Krnecic (Marconi)



Record international
Peter Wilson
of APIA



Peter Kaskopoulos (left) of Sydney Olympic, with
Mark Karapatsos of Fitzroy



Newcastle KB United midfielder Craig Mason



Radoslav Jovicic
(Footscray)



Zoran Ilioski
(Footscray)



Alex Jamieson (left) of Sydney Olympic, with Jim
Hermiston of Brisbane Lions



West Adelaide, with referee
Cambridge



Ken Drakeford (South Melbourne).

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Spotlight on Victorian State League coaches

Plunkett aims to instill some 'Pool spirit'

Croydon City coach Mike Plunkett is striving to keep his players functioning as a team as his club begins what he describes 'a very hard season.'

"Everyone is saying we have a ready-made State League team," said Plunkett, "but Croydon has a lot of hard work to do this year. Any team that comes up from the First Division is up against it."

"My biggest worry at the moment is making sure everyone in the club realises we have a lot to do before we can sit back and be proud."

Most soccer followers agree Plunkett will have his work cut out keeping Croydon on course. His squad of players is one of the strongest in the league, but making sure Croydon fulfill its potential will be a hard task.

"Fortunately we have many experienced players," said Mike. They don't have to be told the story. I'd like to think we are good enough to match whatever the State League has to offer, but that doesn't mean we are confident of winning the championship."

"Our objective at the moment is the top four. Every club must aim for something, and Croydon certainly isn't about to go into the State League saying we are hoping just to hold our place."

"Croydon will aim for the top four, and if we go one better, that will be great."

The eastern suburbs club has certainly planned well for its entry into the State League. Unlike Albion Rovers, which attempted to buy into the State League, Croydon bought a State League-standard team BEFORE it won promotion.

Croydon's outlays for players over the past year have rivalled

the likes of Essendon Croatia and Preston Makedonia — firmly established clubs with large followings.

But it's unlikely Croydon will go under because of financial problems. The committee knows when to stop, and plans to buy Bill Rodgers from South Melbourne were shelved after financial consideration.

Croydon now has many top players including Pat Lowrey (ex-Mooroolbark), Alan Pongho (ex-Mooroolbark), Joe Tront (ex-Fitzroy Alexander), Steve McCombe (ex-Slavia), Jimmy Spink and Duncan Smith (ex-Scottish League).

The latest addition to Croydon's star-studded squad is Dave Broghan, a Scottish midfielder, who arrives in Australia shortly.

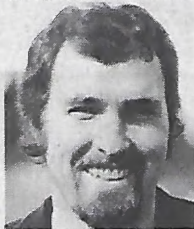
Plunkett has a talented squad, but what about the problems involved with keeping 16 players happy when only 11 can play each week?

"My job with the players is to get them working as a team," said Mike. "We have players whose job is to win the ball and tackle hard, and others to create openings that result in goals."

"We have a set pattern of play, and I chose the best 11 players available who fit in with that pattern."

Having only retired from playing a couple of seasons ago, I tend to get close to my players, but I have a job to do and the players know that. If a player has to be dropped personalities have nothing to do with it."

"I don't mind if a player who



Mike Plunkett

has been dropped wants to know why he has been left out," said Mike. "A player would be stupid if he didn't ask questions of his coach."

"After a player gets told why he was left out, he immediately knows what he has to do to get back in."

Plunkett denied there was any trouble within the Croydon team because of personality clashes.

"I'm aiming at getting Croydon to play as a team," said Mike. "That means combining 11 individuals and ending up with a style that you want."

"But it also means getting a spirit between players that makes them want to play well together. To me that sort of togetherness should go right through a club, from the administration to the under nine players."

Plunkett said there was a great excitement going through Croydon at the moment, and that the togetherness he is aiming for is present.

"A couple of seasons ago," he explained, "we had a little bit but at our ground, and little else. Now we can look around and see the excellent facilities we have."

"Everyone involved with the club is expecting the club to keep going forward. The atmosphere is getting more professional, and we are looking at creating an atmosphere akin to Liverpool, even though that may sound like we are going overboard."

And for the future of Croydon and Plunkett?

"My own future with Croydon will be determined by how I perform as coach," he said. "I want to stay for as long as I can do the job, and as long as the committee is happy with me."

SLAVIA WORKING IN HARMONY

By KYLE PATTERSON

It's generally accepted soccer coaches will always, no matter what, be faced by mountains of problems, but Slavia's Harry Chalkitis does little to lessen the number of hassles he has to contend with.

In fact when a coach demands a high level of harmony amongst his charges in a club like Slavia, so often rocked by a high turnover of players, one might suspect that man is looking for extra worries.

But Chalkitis, in his second year as senior coach of Slavia, is interested only in making sure he and his players have a good relationship.

"I would sacrifice a player if he upset the harmony of the team," said Chalkitis. "To me, a player's attitude towards his club, his coach and his fellow players is as important as his playing ability."

"It's very difficult to get harmony in a team both on and off the field, but to work hard at it is important."

Chalkitis, a players' coach, said mutual respect was an important factor.

"I like to treat all my players as friends," said Harry. "But mutual respect for each other is a must. As a coach I'm there to do a job, and I must win the players' respect by showing I'm capable of achieving my task."

Chalkitis said one of the reasons Slavia had such a high player turnover was the club's desire for harmony.

"There is no player at Slavia we can't replace if we have to," said Harry firmly. "In the past, numerous players have left Slavia because the club has refused to bow to their demands."

"Those players didn't respect the club, and Slavia refuses to go into debt to keep any player. We don't have different sets of rules for different players."

Chalkitis was thrown into the hot seat at Slavia after the 1978 Ampol Cup. Senior coach Tommy Handley resigned, and

Chalkitis was promoted after being reserve coach for two years previous.

It was a testing time for Chalkitis.

"The last game before I took over was a 1-3 defeat to Western Suburbs in the Dockery Cup," said Harry. "The situation was pretty grim because a number of players wanted transfers, and the general morale was low."

"In the end, we had to rebuild the team week before the opening league championship match."

The reshuffles saw Steve Benzie, Jim Symington, John Paton, Steve Moore, Mark Baber and Carl Gilder leave the club, to be replaced by the likes of John Yzendoorn, Jamie Paton, Steve Aldridge and Glenn Westley.

Player troubles aside, Chalkitis still had a lot of worries.

"Like every reserve coach who has stepped into the first team position with the same club," said Chalkitis, "I had to be accepted. I had to work to get the players respect and avoid being looked at as just a reserve coach."

"It would have been a lot easier if I had had the job from the start of the season. I thought I might be given the job from the outset to keep continuity."

Chalkitis talks of continuity after he had worked closely with former Slavia coach Ken Kontra, now with Melbourne.

"Ken had set Slavia in a particular direction," said Chalkitis, "and I planned to continue under his format."

"I learned a lot from Kontra. The most valuable thing was how to handle people. Ken is a former State Director of Coaching and

knows how to handle people at all levels."

After the hard start, Chalkitis worked on finding harmony in his team, which took him virtually the whole season.

"The squad is starting to benefit from the harmony now," he said.

Chalkitis believes friendship with his players, and between players is a must.

"A squad of players and its coach spend a lot of time together," said Harry. "You train three nights a week, and spend a large part of the weekend together."

"It is much easier to work with people you know. The co-operation is much better, and a lot more will be achieved."

"That brings us back to respect. I let the players know where they stand and what I'm trying to achieve. Because I'm friends with my players, I understand them better."

But the Slavia coach disagreed discipline wouldn't be as strong as it should be when a coach is close to his players.

"If I find my squad isn't behaving the way I would like it to," he said, "then I change my manner. Luckily, at Slavia, the players are excellent in this area, so it is hardly a problem."

"But, if I screamed and shouted at them the whole time, very shortly they would lose interest. I would lose the respect of my players if I did that."

Chalkitis' current squad of players is one of the most settled Slavia has had for many years, but in the past there has been trouble.

Chalkitis was assistant coach during the players' strike at Slavia during 1977.

"Slavia was very brave at the start of that trouble," said Chalkitis. "When eight first team players threaten with



Harry Chalkitis

strike action before the most important game of the season, most clubs would probably bend."

"But Slavia didn't weaken. The club refuses to entertain players interested in bleeding us dry. You must remember, a club will always remain, but players and coaches come and go."

For those who don't recall the events during the strike, you only need a reminder that Slavia, filled with reserves, played a 0-0 draw with league leader George Cross.

Slavia was second at the time. "The club took a big gamble taking its stand, but it won the dispute. I recall several of the striking players clapping the Slavia team off the ground that day," said Harry.

Chalkitis added he hoped he never was in a similar situation, but if he was, would support a club which took such a stand.

"If Slavia wasn't working hard at improving itself, I'd say we have no future. But the club wants to progress, which can only mean Slavia will get better."

For Chalkitis, who confesses he loves the pressure of coaching, Slavia is only the start. In the coaching world he is just beginning.



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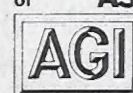
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Rous agrees: winter worst time

"To work that others may play" has been my guiding concept. But work for sport and particularly for soccer, has in return given me a rich and rewarding life, bringing me friends in many countries and close contacts with the famous in many fields. For me, football and living have indeed been fun, and given me a world of happiness. Long may sport and soccer give the same enjoyment to the world's millions."

That is the last paragraph in "Football Worlds", a new book written by the former president of FIFA, Sir Stanley Rous, now 83 years old.

It is by no means a sensational book — indeed, it has been criticised for being too urbane, but then Sir Stanley was never a controversial leader. Rather, one thinks about him the way one thinks about a monarch — rather aloof, refined in appearance and manners. If there is an archetype of the old world Englishman, it is Sir Stanley.

In this book, he traces his involvement with soccer from his childhood in Suffolk, through service in Egypt during the first world war, to teaching at Watford Grammar and a career as an international referee.

In 1934 he became secretary of the English Football Association, a post he held for 27 years, and in 1961 he became president of FIFA for a period spanning four World Cups.

Recalling the 1966 World Cup final between England and West Germany, Sir Stanley expresses the view that goals should be recorded electronically.

"Ever since Geoff Hurst's disputed goal over Germany... I have favored the electronic recording of goals," he writes. "I had no doubt that Hurst's shot did bounce down over the line because Roger Hunt immediately turned away, arms upraised when he could so easily have headed the ball in had he been in any doubt. Yet for the sharp-eyed Russian linesman, Boris Sukhomlinov, that goal might not have been given. Had there been an electronic device registering when the ball crossed the line, as is the case already in ice-hockey and as is done for the 'touch' in swimming, there would have been no doubt and no controversy. The referee's only job then would be to decide whether the ball had fairly crossed the line."

There has been much talk in Australia in recent years about the desirability of changing the soccer season to avoid the bad winter months, during which attendances invariably fall.

Sir Stanley agrees with the proposition. "Summer evenings are ideal for football matches," he writes. "It is odd that we held World Cup finals in June to ensure the best playing conditions and yet arrange our league season at the worst period for players and spectators."

... split the season between autumn, spring and early summer would also give the players a welcome break from the long grind of league matches. By resting them and making them more available for a national manager to train, this might help improve our national performance, which is a current cause of concern."

Sir Stanley is, of course, writing about England.

Expanding on England's international fortunes, he continues:

"All footballing countries have their ups and downs. Hungary was supreme in the 1950s then went into a long decline. Italy and Spain have had a similarly inconsistent performance, while Holland came from nowhere to produce a great team. Only West Germany and Brazil have been consistently successful, and we expect too much in thinking we have a divine right to be always up with the best. But we are right to be worried by the present fall in standards, which is due only in part to a dearth of outstanding players. We need to be more consistent in building a national team through the structure of youth and under-23 internationals, and in keeping together a pool of good players who learn to play together."

Aff Ramsey made the best use of such opportunities, as did Walter Winterbottom when the selectors allowed him. If we are to improve as a national team, it is also essential that the national team manager has a network of part-time assistants and the close co-operation of clubs. George Raynor was outstandingly successful as national manager of Sweden because he had access to players even when with their clubs, and was given some say in their training. When we get similar co-operation from our league clubs, the national team manager may achieve some improvement."

Ron Greenwood is certainly a man who deserves such co-operation and has the sense to concentrate on a proper structure building to a consistent national team."

A book of this type invariably includes a section on "my greatest players." On this subject, Sir Stanley writes:

"Of all the players I have seen the two who have made the deepest impression on me have been Tom Finney and Pele. Both were complete footballers and perfect sportsmen, outstanding professional players yet in bearing the attitude of the amateur ideal. In Stockholm I watched Pele score two fine goals as a seventeen-year-old, which played a major part in winning the 1958 World Cup final against the host nation, Sweden. His maturity on the field had been remarkable and he was as self-possessed off it. As he came up for his medal he made a touching gesture of sympathy to King Gustav, putting his arm round the monarch's shoulders as if regretful to have defeated his country's team. And as he went from triumph to triumph he remained always a modest, likeable and immensely human individual. His innate courtesy was typified for me when, at the 1974 World Cup which he attended as a reporter, he sought me out to chat informally about soccer, he was its greatest star, but he had none of the aloofness or arrogance which affects many lesser players in their hour of glory."

He had a simple missionary zeal for soccer which brought him his greatest achievement of all. In his two years with Cosmos he made such an impact on America that he 'sold' them soccer far more effectively than any high-pressure publicity could have done. This was the breakthrough I had hoped for when I told American promoters earlier that they would have to show their public and real skills of the game before they would be hooked on it. No one but Pele could have made soccer so popular so quickly, and his final game became America's major sporting occasion of 1977."

Sir Stanley helped form the Oceania Confederation of which Australia was an original member. He touches briefly on member countries of Oceania — Papua New Guinea, Fiji, New Zealand.

But it is in Australia that progress has been fastest in the past decade, he says. "It was no fluke that Australia qualified for the 1974 World Cup final round and played with distinction in West Germany. In England we were better able to judge their rising standards when Alton, from their World Cup team, found no difficulty settling into league football with Luton and then Cardiff."

Sir Stanley's section on Australia continues:

"To me it seemed that the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne were crucial for the development of the game in Australia. Before that Australian football had been regarded with amusement in Britain as a filler for the summer pools coupons, with the play itself not to be taken too seriously. Certainly Australia had made none of the impact at soccer that the country makes in so many other sports, and some good players. What the country lacked was nationwide interest in the game."

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Available at: Yodges, 196 Glenferrie Rd., Malvern Stringer, 306 Clayton Rd., Clayton Soccer City, 129 Grey St., St. Kilda Merrett Hassett, 415 Bourke St., Melbourne MSD, 121 Elizabeth St., Melbourne

HYTREN/P166

for soccer

By LAURIE SCHWAB



Sir Stanley Rous

grass-roots teaching, national youth competitions, and a national league — all the essentials in fact for sustained improvement. With some of the best of European football on display in that Olympic tournament, a new zest for the game was born. The final was between Russia and Yugoslavia, with their full national teams playing. That was the only match staged in the vast Melbourne Cricket Ground and it attracted great interest. I watched with Prince Philip, and two incidents especially intrigued us. As at all their matches at their other stadiums, at half-time and at the close, mounted policemen came from the four corner flags riding their horses towards the centre of the stand to make a protective lane screening the referee and linesmen as they walked off. And during the game there was a clash between a back and his winger behind the referee's back. Unnoticed by him it resulted with a headlong chase outside the touchline with the winter just swift enough to escape being caught by his infuriated pursuer.

"Whether it was the skills or the red-blooded challenge in those Olympics which caught the Australian imagination, there was an instant surge of interest in football. When Walter Winterbottom and I gave talks there to coaches and referees on our way to the 1964 Tokyo Games we were impressed with the progress made. And that has been sustained until Australia has the basic structure and the ability to develop to European or South American standards."

"Much of the push has come from Sir Arthur George, a force-

ful spokesman for Australia over the years in both Oceania and FIFA. Sir Arthur comes of emigrant Greek stock and is an influential man whose energetic support of soccer has been a boon to the game. On the recent visit I lunched with Sir Arthur as the exclusive Tattersall's club in Sydney's Capricorn Street. The discussions with him confirmed that the country's soccer should develop vigorously after tasting World Cup success. And that is the aim of the efficient secretary of the Australian Football Federation, Brian LeFevre, who has suffered on my account. For it was after he had arranged a press conference for me that he lost an eye in an accident on his way home."

"Another remarkable Australian who has given soccer, and sport in general, his strong backing, is Vivian Chalwin, whose Chalwin Castle is a centre of cultural life in New South Wales. The castle is a kind of Australian Glyndebourne. Open-air concerts and operas are performed in the Italian garden of this white castellated building as well as in its indoor theatre. The castle and gardens are laid out in the eighteenth-century picturesque style, with the interior lavishly decorated in the Georgian neo-classical manner. It is indeed an enchanted setting for the music which floats over the blue waters of Sydney's Middle Bay."

"Australia seems now to have taken the last step in its ordered development. Max Garrett, a journalist I met on the trip, wrote 'later to me' 'At last we have seen formed a national league which should break down the isolationism of States and ethnic groups which has so inhibited us. The youth competitions which I had pressed them to organise had started earlier and in Sydney I was able to present the Sir Stanley Rous' Trophy to the winners of the national youth championship."

• "Football Worlds" by Sir Stanley Rous, Faber & Faber, recommended price \$19.50.

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The height of enthusiasm — ticketless spectators are up the pole in their determination to see the 1964 final of the South American youth tournament in Bogota, Colombia. The illustration is from "Football Worlds" by Stanley Rous.

Stepney signs for Dallas

From JIM COOK
our European correspondent

Alex Stepney, the 36-year-old Manchester United keeper, has signed a two-year contract with a two-year option for North American League club Dallas Tornado.

Stepney, who has been 13 seasons at Old Trafford, was allowed to go free in recognition of his great service.

Acknowledged as the world's greatest footballer. Johan Cruyff, who retired in November, recently gained his Black Belt in Judo.

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MILAN MIJUSKOVIC
Manager

SUTHERLAND 4 INT. MONARO 2

Ground: Marconi Oval
Weather: fine
Crowd: 2805 (Double header)

Referee: Ken Small 8
Goals: 1:0; Stoddart (22'), 1:1; Giampolo (40'), 2:1; Bagge (45'), 3:1; Beggs (55'), 4:1; Beggs (75'), 4:2; T. Morsello (84').

SUTHERLAND: Cragge 6, Woods 7, Besterfield 7, Smith 8, Delforno 7, Schumann 7, Murphy 8, Meades 6 (Watkins 7-20), Rodgers 80', P. Smith 7, Beggs 8, Stoddart 8.

INTER: Pelec 7, Haywood 7, Venturini 8, Charles 6, O'Neill 5, Fay 5 (Arison 6-58') Bourke 7, T. Morsello 6, Giampolo 7, Valleri 6, Trajanovski 6 (J. Morsello 6-41').

A hard-running performance by Sutherland proved too much for the visitors throughout the game and could have resulted in a bigger score, had Sutherland taken all the chances created.

The feature of the evening was a hat-trick by Peter Beggs but he could have added another goal to his tally in the dying seconds of the game to soar ahead on the list of scorers in this year's Ampol cup.

For the winners, outstanding were John Stoddart and Paul Smith, the latter hitting the post and teaming on two goals for his play. — ALEX VESIC.

CROATIA 4 GRANVILLE 1

Ground: Barton Park
Weather: Intermittent showers
Crowd: 2800

Referee: Henry Witache 8
Goals: Abonyi 2, Marion Kovack 2 (C) Selfridge (64').

CROATIA: Carlisle 4, Troha 7, Cagell 8, Baic 7, A. Kovack 6, Mullen 8, Vidale 6, Savor 7, Abonyi 9, M. Kovack 8, Cootes 7. **GRANVILLE:** Hoare 6, Beron 6, Bigland 7, Selfridge 7, Lackey 6, Farwood 7, McGrath 7, Bates 6, Gauci 6, Fraser 6, Moorcroft 6.

MARCONI 4 ARNCLIFFE 1

Ground: Marconi Oval
Weather: Fine
Crowd: 2805

Referee: Graham Wome 7
Goals: 0:1; Schroeder (5'), 1:1, Henderson (27'), 2:1, Lindsay (70'), 3:1, Jankovic (72'), 4:1; Jankovic (87').

MARCONI: Maher 8, Brogan 6, Degney 7, Russell 7, Prskalo 7, Byrne 6, Henderson 8, Selva 7, Jankovic 7, Mariani 6 (Lindsay 8-57'), Sharne 7.

ARNCLIFFE: Rodgers 8, Day (Piggott 6-12'), Oldham 7, Smart 6, Hall 7, Sidey 6, Baker 6, Bankhead 7, Marchent 6, Schroeder 8, Tracey 6 (Butcher 6-60').

Marconi supporters had to wait for more than an hour before Lindsay scored to give Marconi its well-deserved lead and the goal that put them on the road to victory.

With one goal apiece from the first-half effort, Marconi looked sluggish until Lindsay came on for Mariani in the 57th minute. The last half hour was one-way traffic with Marconi scoring at will.

The long-awaited return of Gary Byrne was fairly quiet, while Ken Lindsay, the new man in the Marconi line-up, shone. Mark Jankovic was again on the scoring sheet, while the form of Bertie Mariani must be of great concern to the club.

For Arncliffe, Schroeder was the best with his speed and shooting ability. — ALEX VESIC.



Striker Andy Scott, who scored five goals including two penalties for Apia against Avala. He is pictured in the strip of his former club, the now-defunct Western Suburbs.

APIA 5 Avala 1

At Seymour Shaw Park
Crowd: 1102 (Double header)

Scorers: Scott (APIA) 5; Vasiljevic (Avala)
Referee: Rampley 7

APIA: McGuire 6, Skolern 7, Ankudinoff 6, Carruthers (Drews 7, 11th minute; Reed 63rd minute), Wilson 7, Turnbull 7, Samuels 7, Butler 6, Scott 9, O'Donnell 6, Vernon 7.

AVALA: Mikolajczyk 5, R. Griffiths 5 (Bateman 64th minute), Deller 6, Barton 5, Gray 7, Nacic 5 (Vasiljevic 58th minute), Patterson 7, Duricic 6, Griffiths 6, Rnjak 6, Kodor 6.

Weather: Hot, humid and sunny.

In spite of the big margin in favor of APIA, this match had its livelier moments, especially during the early stages when Avala could have taken a shock lead.

In fact, Branko Kodor got the ball into the back of the APIA net in the 7th minute, but it was disallowed for offside.

From then on APIA took control of the match, even though Avala refused to give in almost to the very end.

And that end was a long time coming, with referee Peter Rampley adding on



Ken Reed, (left) in the colors of his former club George Cross (Vic). Reed made his debut for Apia against Avala.



GROUP A:

Results so far:
APIA - AVALA 5:1
Sydney City - Kuringai 3:1
APIA - Sydney City 0:0
AVALA - Kuringai 1:1
Toongabbie - APIA 1:2
AVALA - Toongabbie 1:1
APIA - Kuringai 3:1
Sydney City - Toongabbie 2:1

APIA	P	Goals	P
Sydney City	4	10:3	7
Avala	3	2:7	5
Kuringai	3	3:7	1
Toongabbie	3	3:5	1

Last round Saturday, February 17
7:30, Garside Park: Toongabbie - Kuringai
9:00, Garside Park: Sydney City - Avala

GROUP B

Results so far:
Marconi - Sutherland 1:2

Marconi - Sutherland 1:2

SYDNEY CITY 3 KURINGAI 1

At Seymour Shaw Park
Crowd: 1102 (Double header)

Weather: Hot, humid, bright sunshine, with violent rainstorm in second half.

Scorers: Barnes (2, 9), Watson (59), Millen (68).

SYDNEY CITY: Pezzano 6 (Clarke 6, 48th minute), Korhew 7, Teator 7, O'Connor 7, Souness 7, Barnes 7, Campbell 6, Stevenson 7, Silva 8 (Webster 59th minute), Terry Smith 7, Watson 7.

KURINGAI: Ellis 5, Turner 6 (Hill 75th minute), Geokkie 6, Malone 6 (Rosa Smith 80th minute), Robertson 5, Millen 6, Lee 7, Chambers 5, Kinsey 5, Voudsen 5, Ken Smith 6.

Within nine minutes of the kick-off this match was over and done with, as Sydney City simply pulverised its hapless opponents.

Two goals by Barnes, both capitalising on defensive muck-ups that seemed embarrass even a self-respecting junior side, put an end to any semblance of competitive play.

From then on City, totalling outclassing its opponents, strolled through the game, obviously not keen to risk any ill effects from playing in weather suited for almost any tropical pastime except soccer.

Joe Watson did manage to lob in one more later in the game, Barnes missed another sitter or two and Silva hit the post, but City did not seem terribly concerned about the final margin of its inevitable win.

Kuringai did not give up the ghost and as its PSL opponents gradually eased up, managed to create a few moments of excitement in front of the City goal.

With a good leavening of former first division players, such as skipper Frank Millen (Auburn), Billy Millen (Marconi) and Albert Kinsey (Kahook), Kuringai managed to rattle the woodwork twice and Millen even slotted home a consolation goal 28 minutes from the end.

City coach Gerry Chaldi was satisfied with his boys' performance in the heatwave conditions and predicted they would reach peak form at the right time - during the PSL season.

He was, however, scathing in his condemnation of the Ampol Cup organisers, deeming it totally unreasonable to ask soccer players to risk their health in such conditions during the height of Australian summer heat.

PETER SCOTT



STANDINGS

GROUP C

Results so far:
Olympic - Yugal 2:1
Auburn - Marrickville 1:1
Olympic - Revesby 1:0
Yugal - Marrickville 2:1
Olympic - Auburn 2:1
Yugal - Revesby 3:1
Auburn - Revesby 2:0
Marrickville - Revesby 2:1

Olympic	P	Goals	P
Yugal	3	5:2	6
Auburn	3	6:4	4
Marrickville	3	4:3	3
Revesby	3	4:4	3
Revesby	4	2:8	0

Last round Sunday, February 18
2:15, Barton Park: Yugal - Auburn

GROUP D

Results so far:
St. George - Manly 2:1
Croatia - Melita 0:2
Croatia - Manly 3:1
Manly - Granville 2:1
St. George - Granville 5:1
Melita - St. George 0:2
Melita - Manly 8:0
Croatia - Granville 4:1

St. George	P	Goals	P
Croatia	3	8:1	6
Manly	3	10:2	4
Granville	3	7:4	4
Manly	4	4:14	2
Granville	3	2:11	0

Last round Saturday, February 17
7:30, Marconi Oval: Granville - Melita

9:00, Marconi Oval: St. George - Croatia

GROUP E

Results so far:
Olympic - Yugal 2:1
Auburn - Marrickville 1:1
Olympic - Revesby 1:0
Yugal - Marrickville 2:1
Olympic - Auburn 2:1
Yugal - Revesby 3:1
Auburn - Revesby 2:0
Marrickville - Revesby 2:1

Olympic	P	Goals	P
Yugal	3	5:2	6
Auburn	3	6:4	4
Marrickville	3	4:3	3
Revesby	3	4:4	3
Revesby	4	2:8	0

Last round Sunday, February 18
2:15, Barton Park: Yugal - Auburn

GROUP F

Results so far:
Olympic - Yugal 2:1
Auburn - Marrickville 1:1
Olympic - Revesby 1:0
Yugal - Marrickville 2:1
Olympic - Auburn 2:1
Yugal - Revesby 3:1
Auburn - Revesby 2:0
Marrickville - Revesby 2:1

Olympic	P	Goals	P
Yugal	3	5:2	6
Auburn	3	6:4	4
Marrickville	3	4:3	3
Revesby	3	4:4	3
Revesby	4	2:8	0

Last round Sunday, February 18
2:15, Barton Park: Yugal - Auburn

GROUP G

Results so far:
Olympic - Yugal 2:1
Auburn - Marrickville 1:1
Olympic - Revesby 1:0
Yugal - Marrickville 2:1
Olympic - Auburn 2:1
Yugal - Revesby 3:1
Auburn - Revesby 2:0
Marrickville - Revesby 2:1

Olympic	P	Goals	P
Yugal	3	5:2	6
Auburn	3	6:4	4
Marrickville	3	4:3	3
Revesby	3	4:4	3
Revesby	4	2:8	0

Last round Sunday, February 18
2:15, Barton Park: Yugal - Auburn

GROUP H

Results so far:
Olympic - Yugal 2:1
Auburn - Marrickville 1:1
Olympic - Revesby 1:0
Yugal - Marrickville 2:1
Olympic - Auburn 2:1
Yugal - Revesby 3:1
Auburn - Revesby 2:0
Marrickville - Revesby 2:1

Olympic	P	Goals	P
Yugal	3	5:2	6
Auburn	3	6:4	4
Marrickville	3	4:3	3
Revesby	3	4:4	3
Revesby	4	2:8	0

Last round Sunday, February 18
2:15, Barton Park: Yugal - Auburn

GROUP I

Results so far:
Olympic - Yugal 2:1
Auburn - Marrickville 1:1
Olympic - Revesby 1:0
Yugal - Marrickville 2:1
Olympic - Auburn 2:1
Yugal - Revesby 3:1
Auburn - Revesby 2:0
Marrickville - Revesby 2:1

Olympic	P	Goals	P
Yugal	3	5:2	6
Auburn	3	6:4	4
Marrickville	3	4:3	3
Revesby	3	4:4	3
Revesby	4	2:8	0

Last round Sunday, February 18
2:15, Barton Park: Yugal - Auburn

GROUP J

Results so far:
Olympic - Yugal 2:1
Auburn - Marrickville 1:1
Olympic - Revesby 1:0
Yugal - Marrickville 2:1
Olympic - Auburn 2:1
Yugal - Revesby 3:1
Auburn - Revesby 2:0
Marrickville - Revesby 2:1

Olympic	P	Goals	P
Yugal	3	5:2	6
Auburn	3	6:4	4
Marrickville	3	4:3	3
Revesby	3	4:4	3
Revesby	4	2:8	0

Last round Sunday, February 18
2:15, Barton Park: Yugal - Auburn

GROUP K

Results so far:
Olympic - Yugal 2:1
Auburn - Marrickville 1:1
Olympic - Revesby 1:0
Yugal - Marrickville 2:1
Olympic - Auburn 2:1
Yugal - Revesby 3:1
Auburn - Revesby 2:0
Marrickville - Revesby 2:1

Olympic	P	Goals	P
Yugal	3	5:2	6
Auburn	3	6:4	4
Marrickville	3	4:3	3
Revesby	3	4:4	3
Revesby	4	2:8	0

Last round Sunday, February 18
2:15, Barton Park: Yugal - Auburn

GROUP L

Results so far:
Olympic - Yugal 2:1
Auburn - Marrickville 1:1
Olympic - Revesby 1:0
Yugal - Marrickville 2:1
Olympic - Auburn 2:1
Yugal - Revesby 3:1
Auburn - Revesby 2:0
Marrickville - Revesby 2:1

Olympic	P	Goals	P
Yugal	3	5:2	6
Auburn	3	6:4	4
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Revesby	4	2:8	0

Last round Sunday, February 18
2:15, Barton Park: Yugal - Auburn

Basketball and soccer link up



South Australian Ampol Cup

with MENO TOUTSIDIS

The world's two most popular ball games - basketball and soccer - will combine in a unique promotion in Sydney this year.

The clubs involved are both Sydney City: both play in their respective National leagues and both field some of the best players in Australia.

They decided to combine their efforts in an attempt to restore top class sport's image in this country as family entertainment.

The two clubs will issue joint tickets at bargain rates for several of their home games, promote each others sports at those games, link up for a combined publicity campaign and take the games of basketball and soccer directly to the public of the city of Sydney.

The first salvo in a saturation campaign will be the staging of a special "Lunchtime Happening" at Martin Place later this month, when the outstanding stars of the two teams - hailing from countries as far apart as Brazil, the

United States, Britain and of course, Australia - are to demonstrate their skills, hold competitions for onlookers and give away free tickets to some of the games at Wentworth Park and Alexandria Basketball Stadium.

The promotion will also involve Mitchells-Bass, Grace Brothers and Radio 2UW.

On Sunday, March 25, basketball and soccer combine once again in a day-long extravaganza. With a single ticket, selling at \$2.50 (or a family ticket which for \$5 admits two adults and two children) sports fans will be entertained, fed and treated to some top-notch action.

The program will start at Wentworth Park, where Sydney City basketballers will hold clinics and contests before the top-of-the-table Phillips League clash between Sydney City and Marconi, with further exhibitions by the basketballers and an American-style entertainment show at half time.

From Glebe fans can take their tickets to what Sydney City is scheduled to clash with reigning N.S.W. Champions Illawarra in a major fixture of the National Basketball League at 7.30 pm.

The two clubs will put on parade such Superstars as Gordon McLeod one of the outstanding "little men" of last October's World Championship series in the Philippines, and John Conrad, a giant new import from the U.S.A.

Soccer will also gain exposure among members of the basketball public, with the Sydney City stars being introduced at half time, and some of the outstanding ball artists putting their skills on display.

After the major promotion on March 25, the Sydney City basketball and soccer clubs will combine for three more series of joint tickets. For the same low price as on March 25, sports lovers will gain admission to the Sydney City V Bankstown Bruins basketball (March 31) and Sydney City V Footscray soccer (April 8) matches.

The same holds true for Sydney City V West Adelaide basketball and Sydney City V APIA soccer games on April 29 and May 6 respectively, and the Sydney City V St. Kilda basketball and Sydney City V Sydney Olympic soccer matches on May 19 and 20.



Con Kambas

VICTORIA 0 POLONIA 0

Crowd: 2,000.
Weather: Mild.
Cautions: Kuczmarski (Polonia).
Referee: John Tarling 7.
Ratings:
Polonia: Jacques 8, Di Bartolo 7, Kolecki 6, Kuczmarski 6, Stanczak 7, Larecki 7, Tiner 6, Varoukna 7, Kitioka 6 (Chadwick), Cademaro 7, H. Kolecki 7.
VICTORIA: Green 7, Campbell 7, Waxman 7, Fyfe 7, Schoenfeldt 7, Elliott 8 (Higgins), Boyle 6, Gill 7 (Worrell), Turffe 6, McNally 7, Brown 7.

Victoria wasted any hope they had of qualifying for the finals after a tame goal-less draw with Polonia.

Victoria always had an edge over Polonia but failed to crack their defence in which goalkeeper Howie Jacques was outstanding.

Bobby Tufts had the first chance of the match after 10 minutes when he hammered a ground shot which Jacques saved.

John Kritikos, whose scoring form has now completely deserted him, had a chance to put Polonia ahead but he shot over the bar from 15 metres.

Moments later Victoria's Mike Gill sent a blistering shot over the bar and it was obvious goals would be scarce.

Victoria began to pressure Polonia midway through the second half as they fought desperately for an opening goal.

It almost came in the 25th minute when defender Tom Schoenfeldt hit a scorching shot but Jacques was equal to it.

Victoria's talented winger Tim Brown sent a floating ball to the far corner but Jacques turned it over the bar.

The match could have swung either way in the last 15 minutes but neither side could exert enough pressure.

The draw left Polonia, the Cup holder, with only one point from its three preliminary games and incredibly it failed to score a solitary goal.

Meanwhile Victoria ended the series with a win, a draw and a loss and just a point from qualifying for the finals.

Standings:

GROUP A

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Adel. City.....	2	0	1	4	3	4
Azzurri.....	2	0	1	3	2	4
Victoria.....	1	1	1	2	2	3
Polonia.....	0	1	2	0	2	1

GROUP B

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Croatia.....	2	1	0	8	2	5
West Ad.....	2	0	1	5	5	4
Cumberland.....	1	1	1	4	4	3
Elizabeth.....	0	0	3	1	8	0

Semi finals: (February 23) Croatia v Azzurri, West (February 19) Adelaide v Adelaide City.

Leading goalscorers: 4 Hayes (Croatia) 3 Leane (Cumberland), 2 Rogosic (Croatia), Marwe (Adelaide City).



Robert Marwe

AD. CITY 2 AZZURRI 1

Goals: Marwe (Adelaide City) 11 and 12. Alder (Azzurri) 18th minute.
Ground: Hindmarsh.
Weather: Mild.
Cautions: Meita, Dods (Adelaide City), Manolav (Azzurri).
Sent off: Deans (Adelaide City).
Referee: Bob Kerr.

Adelaide City and Azzurri qualified for the semi finals after this tough clash but Dixi Deans grabbed the headlines when he was sent off in a controversial incident.

Deans was ordered off in the 60th minute after coming on as a second half substitute when he allegedly struck Azzurri keeper Eric Metanowski.

Deans certainly deserved the red card, which incidentally earned him a one match suspension, but he should have been joined by at least one Azzurri player.

The trouble began when Deans and Metanowski went down in a tangle of legs.

As the ball was kicked upfield, Metanowski appeared to push Deans away. Deans then returned the compliment.

Deans was swamped by a host of Azzurri players and under extreme provocation floored Metanowski.

Referee Bobby Kerr intervened and sent off Deans.

Earlier, City charged to a two-goal lead within 12 minutes with both goals coming from the head of Robert Marwe.

The first in the 11th minute was headed from virtually on the goal line and the second was a flashing header from 10 metres.

Azzurri pulled one goal back in the 18th minute with a beautifully glanced header from Tim Alder.

The half died a bit towards the end but Deans' inclusion in the second half livened up the game.

The unfortunate thing about Deans' sending off is that he was beginning to look extremely dangerous.

Twice Metanowski could only watch as piledrivers flashed past the posts.

Azzurri had a great chance to level two minutes from the end but Vic Smythe's powerful header was brilliantly stopped by Peter Marshall.

Hawke hurt

Juventus (Vic) goalkeeper Terry Hawke will miss at least the next three weeks of the Victorian Ampol Cup after suffering three broken ribs in a charity match last weekend.

Rovers' 3-1

Doncaster Rovers, newly-promoted to the Victorian Second Division, opened the season with a 3-1 win over Moreland.

Andy Blondell scored two for Rovers, with Alan Williams getting the third.

Ray Evans replied for Moreland.

The reserve game was also won by Doncaster, with goals from Alex Sachinidis (2) and Chris Kotopoulos.

Goalkeeper available

Goalkeeper Hugh Graham of Juventus (Vic) is available for transfer. Clubs interested in signing him should contact Tony Boggi (329 9999).



Craig Hall of Australia (left) tees up a shot for goal in the Socceroos' 0-0 draw with Israel. Attempting to block the shot is Israeli defender Malka Shidmo.

Romero, Woodhouse superb

From page one

Goalkeeper Greg Woodhouse saved Australia from an embarrassing half time deficit with some superb play. He soon became a hero in the eyes of the 50,000 at the Defensores del Chaco Stadium in Asuncion, Paraguay.

A goal from Paraguayan whiz kid Romero gave the home team a 1-0 lead at the interval. Romero scored again in the second half as Paraguay cruised to an easy victory.

Australia was vastly improved in the second 45 minutes, and Craig Hall had the Socceroos' best chance of the match when he headed against the crossbar soon after the interval.

Half-time changes were Peter Tredinnick for Graham Jennings, and Paul Kaye for Theo Selemidis.

Two days after, the Australians fronted up to face Israel, but the energy-sapping heat told on the young Socceroos, many of whom had lost a lot of weight because of constant sweating.

Gutendorf was believed to

be considering sweeping changes in the team. Striker Eddie Krncevic was completely out of touch and centre back George Christopoulos had a below average game.

Against the Israelis, Australia was flat and played like a

tired team. However, the Socceroos were superior to their opponents, and it was only a lack of spark in the forward line which prevented the Australians from converting its attacks into goals.

The fact that Israel lost to Paraguay 0-3 (compared with

the Socceroos' 0-2 loss) shows Australia has the edge on Israel.

Romero, the player who destroyed Australia, set up Paraguay's win with an early goal. Valonottis and Cabanas completed the scoring.



Graham Jennings hooks the ball away during Australia's game against Israel in Asuncion, Paraguay. In close attendance is Israel's Bun Nun Boaz.



Australia's Steven Hogg (right) pounces on a loose ball during the under 19 Socceroos' match against Paraguay. At left is Paraguayan forward Fidel Mino. Paraguay won 2-0.

Van Hoboken shapes up his world beaters

"The 1979 Ringwood team will be the strongest ever seen at the club. We will be back in the State League next season."

The man sprouting those confident words is **John Van Hoboken**, the outspoken president/owner of Ringwood City.

Van Hoboken's restructured team is in fact better than any previous Ringwood line up, which have included great names such as **Rudi Muskeke**, **Peter Ollerton**, **Deve Pygall**, **Gary Cole**, **Mike Pye** and **Chris Kent**, then it's a good bet Ringwood City will make a fast return to the State League.

But it remains to be seen if Ringwood has the power to beat off the challengers from the First Division and secure a ticket back to the top league.

Van Hoboken's ambitious plans include bringing six players from overseas to bolster his squad.

The imported players include: **Michael Fulham**, who has played with Canterbury in the New Zealand national league. He represented New Zealand at under 16 level in 1974.

Ian Greener, a prolific goalscorer who notched 42 goals last season for Durham City in English non-league soccer.

John Malcolm, a Scottish centre back who's had experience with Rob Roy, a top Scottish non-league club, Glasgow Perth and Kilsyth Rangers.

The names of the other three players haven't been released by Van Hoboken because contracts aren't complete as yet.

However, one is a 21st Zins striker from Shrewsbury Town in England, another a Dutchman who has played most recently in New Zealand, and the third a friend of centre half Malcolm with similar playing experience.

When asked why he chose to import players, instead of buying on the local market, Van Hoboken said: "Local clubs want big money for rubbish players. I'm not going to waste my time looking for players in Melbourne."

Two other players — **Keith Adams** and **Brian Thom** — are on the transfer list.

Incidentally, the coach of the team is **Hank Mathew**, who coached Ringwood reserves last season and is a former Doncaster Rovers coach.

Last season, there was controversy at Ringwood regarding Van Hoboken's habit of giving advice to then coach **Freddy Bunce**.

But Van Hoboken defends his policy of assisting coaches.

"Any coach who doesn't want advice from a man like myself, with more experience than most coaches around," said Van Hoboken, "is obviously off his head."

"I brought Ringwood up from the Fourth Division from 1954, and played Dutch First Division football. I know what the game is about."

Besides, I'm solely responsible for the financing of the club. It's only fair that I have a say in what goes on."



Gerry Altheim

Reformed Kokkinos bonanza for Wests

Greek superstar Ulysses Kokkinos is expected to spearhead Western Suburbs' drive towards the State League.

The controversial striker, infamous because of his erratic attitude towards soccer, is believed to have settled down.

The former South Melbourne, Fitzroy Utd. and Juventus forward is the hero of Melbourne's Greek soccer fans, and if he can hit top form, Wests can expect a significant increase of supporters.

But still a question mark hangs over Kokkinos' ability to play out a complete season with a club. No matter what happens, the Greek idol will add some glamour to the First Division.

Jim Pyrgiolis the former South Melbourne star, is back as coach of Western Suburbs. He was in charge during the 1976 season, but this time expects to win the championship with Wests.

Wests' president **Sam David** is angry Fitzroy Alexander is claiming it has signed Western Suburbs' defender **Mark Karapatsos**.

"The deal is definitely not finalised," said David. "Fitzroy has offered to swap **Alex Nelson** for **Karapatsos**, but we want cash. **Karapatsos** is a brilliant player, and is worth at least \$5000."

Alexander and Western Suburbs are friends. But over the years, we have bought some rubbish players from them. The only

good one was **Karapatsos**, and now they want him back for nothing. It's not on."

Karapatsos' sale wouldn't affect Western Suburbs too much. In defence **Mike Gikokalamos**, the former Fitzroy centre back, and **Marian Jaworski**, the former Polonia strongman, from a solid partnership.

Andy Czapiak is expected to hit top form this season after transferring from Polonia at the start of 1978.

However, Western Suburbs is short of top forwards, and David said strikers are top priority in his transfer market search.



Ulysses Kokkinos

MELBOURNE BACK HOME

Melbourne coach Ken Kontra believes the club's return to Middle Park Stadium, the scene of many of the Hungarian team's triumphs, will be a big boost on the road to recovery.

"It's great to be back at Middle Park Stadium," said Kontra. "We were tenants at the ground for many years, and I think it has the best surface in Australia."

"One advantage is that we will now be able to get full revenue from home games. Last season, when we played on an outside pitch, we had to go around and ask spectators for donations."

"My younger players are excited about playing on such a fine stadium. A couple of our home games may be certain-raisers for Philips League fixtures."

Melbourne's return to the stadium comes as a surprise. When the club was relegated from the State League, it was refused to re-enter, so it seems strange the decision should be reversed.

But still Melbourne is delighted, and confidently strides towards becoming once again a top club.

Melbourne hit rock bottom in 1977 when it finished second last in the First Division, and had a mass exodus of players.

Under Kontra, Melbourne rebuilt within a season, and won promotion back to the First Division last season.

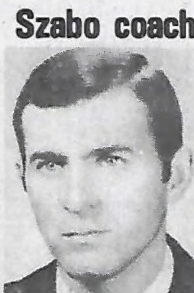
The club now has several large backers, and is looking at sponsorship to help its re-emergence.

And, what's most important, the supporters are returning.

Kontra has retained all of last season's players, and will add two from England.

A striker from the top amateur league in London, and a midfielder from the Cheshire League will join Melbourne.

Two players from local clubs will be bought by Melbourne.



Former Victorian State defender **Joe Szabo** (pictured) has succeeded **Niko de Bruckere** as coach of Fitzroy's Second Division team. Szabo played for Melbourne from 1970 to 1978 and for Keilor Australia from 1977 to the end of last year.

AMALGAMATED NEW START FOR CITY

First Division club Keilor City has amalgamated with Central Altona to end four years of conflict between the two clubs.

Although Central Altona will continue to exist in the Second Division of the Provisional League, the financial strength of the two clubs will be put behind Keilor City.

The move means the start of a new era in the confused history of Keilor City.

In 1956, Olympia was born. It was a junior club catering for young Polish players.

In 1964, Olympia joined forces with St. Albans to create St. Albans Olympia United.

St. Albans Olympia Utd achieved considerable success, winning the Second Division championship, the Armstrong Cup, the Sydney AGI Cup, the Seymour Cup and the New World Cup in 1965.

Despite the success, the amalgamated club proved unsuitable, and the two clubs split.

St. Albans retained its place in the First Division, but Olympia, renamed Keilor City, had to be content with Fourth Division status.

St. Albans continued to prosper, while Keilor City slogged away in the lower divisions.

Remarkably, by 1969 Keilor City had found its way into the First Division.

The confrontation of the former clubmates saw a clean victory for Keilor City, which won both league fixtures between the clubs that season.

Ironically, the clubs' grounds are about 20 metres apart at Churchill Reserve, St. Albans.

The two clubs continued in the First Division, and supremacy saw-sawed from year to year.

The next major change for Keilor City came in 1974 when **Joe and Franz Marth** joined the club from Central Altona.

The Marth brothers gained control of the committee re-inforced by other supporters who had followed them from Central Altona.

Thus Keilor City, for so many years a Polish club, was slowly picking up a Macedonian support.

Keilor City official **Richard Kinkel** explains:

"Keilor City's membership dropped to 75 last season," said Kinkel. "The members who stuck by the club were having to pay hundreds of dollars out of their pockets to keep the club going."

"We decided it couldn't go on, and luckily Central Altona was interested in getting together. They didn't want to waste time working their way up from the Provisional League, so the arrangements suited both clubs."

Kinkel said Keilor City's membership would easily top the 250 mark this season.

"There is a new enthusiasm in the club," said Kinkel. "The

thought of Keilor City in the State League is no longer a dream."

But Keilor City will be working overtime to be ready for the opening of the Metropolitan League season.

Celo Presilski, player coach of Keilor City for the past two seasons, has joined Preston Macedonia as assistant coach. Keilor City is desperate to lure Presilski back to the club.

The former Preston player has a week to decide before his contract with Preston begins. Keilor City is expected to make a lucrative offer to Celo.

If Presilski doesn't return, former Essendon Croatia defender **Wally Kulyk**, who transferred to Keilor City last season, may become player coach.

Polonia retains Widera

Eddie Widera has been re-appointed coach of Polonia.

However, Widera may have to make do with the players he has. Polonia's plans to import more players from Poland have been hindered by government red tape.

Last season Polonia brought out four players. They were: **Jan Gawlik**, a midfielder/defender, **Ted Rachwalski**, a midfielder, **Leszek Dabala-Kowski**, a goalkeeper, and **Andrew Waszola**, a defender.

Tom Koter, a defender, is in his second year with the club after being brought out from Poland.

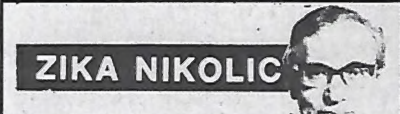
All the players are expected to stay with Polonia for at least another season.

Polonia has lost the services of **Mark Kowala**, the reserves best and fairest player, who will spend 1978 studying in Canberra.

George Pater is secretary for 1979, while **Mur Zurek** is the new president. **George Kerry** junior continues as treasurer, and popular **Ted Lezon** remains as team manager.

Polonia's first commitment this season is the Annual Polish Sports Festival, at Lara Sports Ground Geelong.

Polonia will play games against Ardeer and RACV (of the Industrial League) during the festival.



Gostovanje OFK Beogradja je otpalo u zadnjem trenutku, iako su uslovi bili primamljivi i ostvarljivi. Međutim, nogometaši sa Australije posle lošeg iskustva sa Olimpijskim som 1. izgleda Vislorn, nije bio voljan da se upušta u novu finansijsku avanturu. Steta, jer su zbog sličnih razloga ranije otpale turneje Hajduka, Zagreba i Sarajeva.

Posle je prosle nedelje u mirnozb zbog godišnjice skupštine, J.U.S.T. se ove nedelje imali bogat program, ispunjen teškim utakmicama. U sredu uveče, 14. februara, "plavi" dočekuju na svom igralistu Sunshine City. Utakmica počinje u 6 sati. Kao što je do sad rad, trener Cede Kirvicov ce iskoristiti i ovu priliku da proba svih 22 igrača, od kojih treba da izabere 18 standardnih prvotimaca. Očekuje se da ce na ovu utakmicu novi golman imati priliku da pokaže ugled, koji je stekao u Engleskoj. Steve Potter je dosad u JUST kao turist, a ne kao pekar, jer u Australiji nikad ne može dobiti kao golman ono što je imao u ENGLESKOJ.

Vec sutra dan, posle utakmice sa Sunshineom, J.U.S.T. igra drugu prijteljku utakmicu sa Port Melbourne. Ova puta "plavi" su gosti.

Treću i najtežu utakmicu J.U.S.T. igra u nedelju 18. februara protiv Aleksandra. Komu duguje revnu. Na početku sezone, box treninga i uigravanja, "plavi" su igrali sa 12 iko su imali vise od igre. Ovog puta može biti drukcije, jer se "plava masina" zgrejala, ali ni Aleksandar nije spavao. U svakom slučaju, surset ce biti na najvisem nivou, uzbedljiv i zanimljiv. Očekuje se rekordna poseta. Utakmica se igra na JUST-ovom igralistu i počinje u 5 sati po podne. Prema nasem nagađanju, JUST ce uspeti da usavrši sa sledecim sastavom: Potter, Ristic, Iloski, Jovicic, Kondarić, Lujic, Palinkas, Picioane, Ollerton, Jovanovic, Risticovci. Pre-lazak Ollertona jos uvek je pod znakom pitanja, ali postoji mogućnost da ipak navuce "plavi" dres u ovoj sezoni. To je njegova želja, a tako isto žele igrači i navijači, jer od odlaska Branka Buljevića JUST nije imao igrača za visoke obrambene. Na treba zabrinjavati, jer Branka Buljevića jos uvek na usnama navijača "plavih", i kao se o njegovom povratku malo govori. Na kraju ove sezone Branka Buljević istice trogodišnji ugovor, po se ustare simpatije mogu lako obnoviti.

Posle uslovo počinje takmicenje sa Dockerty Cup, probudo se i drugi tim JUST-a, koji ove godine trenira Milenko Rusmir. Ima dosta novih lica, ali nedostaju i stari. Sa kakvim mogućnostima ulazi u novu sezonu, sasuncemo posle prvih prijateljskih utakmica, koje se igraju ove nedelje. U subotu 17. februara drugi tim JUST-a rezervu igraju protiv Melbourne na Middle Parku. Rezerve počinju u 2 sata po podne, a za njih nastupaju prvi timovi.

Postoji mogućnost da drugi tim JUST-a odigra jos jednu utakmicu, u nedelju 18. februara, protiv Aleksandra. Ova utakmica bi se igrala kao predigra glavnog susreta istovetnih timova na J.U.S.T. ovom igralistu u Footscray-u. Počela bi u 3.15 po podne. Znaci, ljubitelji nogometa mogu videti dva dobra susreta istoga dana.

Aleksandar je prosle nedelje prazgao Makedoniju sa 6:1 (5:1) u prijateljskom susretu na Olympic Parku. Ovakav proz je ocekivao i naj-voce trener "orovno-crni" Tony Vrzina, koji je navedu vise skusen igrački fond, koji se ne može na brzini popuniti. Poraz bi mogao biti dvoifren da Aleksander nije u drugom poluvremenu nastupio sa drugom garniturom. Zanimljivo je kako je mogao tako brzo da se istopi fond igrača, kada je Vardae nedavno jedva izvukao neresen rezultat protiv Makedonije, a Helias je posramljen nagustio stadion i Rene Branka Buljevića u skorbi budućnosti Makedoniji ce biti jos teze, jer je Keilor City u prvij diviziji dobio makedonsku upravu, koja ima ambiciju da uvede ovaj klub u državne ligu. Keilor City ima igraliste u St. Albansu i nekoliko igrača Makedonaca. Najbolji igrači iz Central Altona treba da pređu u Keilor City. Trenor novog makedonskog kluba je Celo Presilski, koji je vise godina nacio dres Makedonije.

Ove nedelje se igra drugo kolo Ampol Kupa, koje je odlucujuce za Essendon/Croatia i Makedoniju. Ako prirede jos jedno neugodno iznenađenje svojim navijačima, mogu se oporistiti od polufinala i finala Ampol Kupa. Protivnik Croatia je Slavija, koja nema imenitog navijača ali uvek je bila trd orah za sve protivnike. Makedonija se igra u petak uvece na Olympic Parku. Makedonija igra protiv Sunshine City-a u nedelju 18. februara na svom igralistu u Resvornu. Snucni sast Makedonije crvsto veruje da ce do nedelje je uspeti da potpisue jednog ili dva navialna igrača, tako da ubolji stralac McMillan ne bude vise usamljeni napadač.

Steta sto vise gledalaca nije doslo da vidi susret poljskog prvaka Visle sa reprezentacijom Vitorije, koji je nerasno izgubila sa 1:0. Treba da znati da ovo nije najbolji sastav reprezentacije, ali je ipak pruzen usamljen otpor protivniku, koji ima ambiciju da postane sampon Evrope.

Dunkerley boss

Springvale City has appointed Tony Dunkerley coach to succeed Tim White, who has accepted a lucrative coaching position in Queensland.

Dunkerley was assistant to White. Dunkerley coached Springvale's reserve team to the championship last season.

All Springvale's players are expected to stay with the club.

Last season, Springvale players played without pay so the club could devote all finances to the completion of ground improvements.

Now the club's Ross Reserve ground is fully enclosed, has modern change rooms, a running track around the perimeter of the ground, a modern toilet block, terracing on one side of the ground and one of the best playing surfaces in Melbourne.

Work on Springvale's social club is expected to commence in three weeks.

Springvale is once again organising the Nubrik Tournament, which will begin on March 11.

Four clubs — Box Hill, Doveton, Springvale and Dandenong — will compete for \$1,000 prizemoney donated by the Nubrik company.

A round robin will be played over three weekends, with the winner receiving \$500, second \$250 and third and fourth \$125 each.

Springvale isn't expected to buy any new players. Instead, youngsters like **Franky Bood**, **David Luce** and **Lho Vares** will be given the opportunity to establish themselves in the first team.

Dunkerley predicts big things from South African striker **Brian Clotcher**, who was last season hindered by injury later in the season.

Springvale has practice matches organised against Frankston City (February 15 at Frankston), Slavia (February 21 at Springvale), Albion Rovers, Ringwood City and Juventus.

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Szabo coach

Former Victorian State defender **Joe Szabo** (pictured) has succeeded **Niko de Bruckere** as coach of Fitzroy's Second Division team. Szabo played for Melbourne from 1970 to 1978 and for Keilor Australia from 1977 to the end of last year.



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